

T H E
Town and Country Magazine;

O R,

UNIVERSAL REPOSITORY

O F

Knowledge, Instruction, and Entertainment.

For **JANUARY, 1782.**

Embellished with the following Engravings. 1. A superb emblematical Frontispiece, designed and engraved by the most capital Artists. 2. An elegant engraved Title Page. 3. A beautiful Profile of Mrs. W—st. And, 4. A striking Likeness of the GALLANT ADMIRAL.

Containing, among a Variety of original and interesting Articles,

| | | | | | |
|----|---|-----|----|---|-------|
| 1 | Address from the Proprietors of the Town and Country Magazine to the Public | 3 | 21 | Observations on Religious Establishments | 30 |
| 2 | State of Europe for January | 5 | 22 | Anecdote of a young Musselman | 31 |
| 3 | The Theatre. No. 145 | 6 | 23 | On Luxury | ib. |
| 4 | The Advertiser Extraordinary | 7 | 24 | Poetical Inspector. No. I | 34 |
| 5 | A Parodical Description of Miss Park | 8 | 25 | Proceedings in both Houses of Parliament | 33 |
| 6 | Histories of the Tête-a-Tête annexed: or, Memoirs of the Gallant Admiral, and Mrs. W—st | 9 | 26 | Debates on the Army Estimates | 34 |
| 7 | Memoirs of the Gallant Admiral | 10 | 27 | Speeches of the Marquis of Rockingham, &c. | 36 |
| 8 | Ditto of the beautiful Mrs. W—st | 11 | 28 | Notes by several Hands | 40 |
| 9 | The Coffee-house, No. 14 | 12 | 29 | The Man of Pleasure. No. 112 | 42 |
| 10 | The Termagant. No. 5 | 13 | 30 | Account of New Books and Pamphlets | 43 |
| 11 | The Bye-stander. No. I | 15 | 31 | POETRY — Spring. An Ode — Spring. A Pastoral — Emma to Henry — Verses by an American — On Miss Elizabeth P—k, of Norton Falgate — Ode for her Majesty's Birth-day — Song in Lun's Ghost | 46—48 |
| 12 | The Hermit | 17 | 32 | Foreign Occurrences | 49 |
| 13 | Thymander and Sobrina | 19 | 33 | Domestic Intelligence | 51 |
| 14 | The Tortures of Jealousy | 20 | 34 | Marriages | 56 |
| 15 | A curious Spanish Anecdote | 21 | 35 | Deaths | ib. |
| 16 | The Observer. No. 96 | 22 | | | |
| 17 | The Delineator. No. 27 | 23 | | | |
| 18 | History of Indostan and the Carnatic War | 26 | | | |
| 19 | Political Strictures | 29 | | | |
| 20 | On the Athanasian Creed | ib. | | | |

LONDON, Printed for A. HAMILTON, Jun. opposite St. DUNSTON'S CHURCH, FLEET-STREET. Where Letters to the Authors are received.

And sold by G. ROBINSON, at No. 25, in Pater-noster-Row; and all other Booksellers in Great Britain and Ireland.

EXPLANATION of the FRONTISPIECE.

The Frontispiece exhibits what we have often wished for—a *reclaimed Tête-à-Tête*. *Dorcas* and *Dorinda* had lived for some time out of the Pale of Matrimony; but being pursued by a *Satyr* with a Writ of *Error*, they fly to the Altar of Hymen for an *Afflum*. The Writ of Error falls of course, and the *Satyr* is justly *non-suited*.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS to our CORRESPONDENTS.

Incognita we believe, as she describes herself, is a very pretty Woman; but we are sorry to add, she must remain unknown to our Readers as a Correspondent: it would hurt us to acquaint her with the Reason, therefore shall leave her to conjecture it.

Pasquin may, as he says, have *Wit at Will*; but we hope for that Reason, this is not his last Testament.

Renard the Enquirer, is desired to call *within* for Lodgings *ready furnished*, either in St. James's-Street, or Moorfields, between Bedlam and St. Luke's.

An Author is a very respectable Character, when properly supported; but upon this Occasion, our Subscriber does not seem to merit the Title of a *Scribbler*.

All the Lions let loose from the Tower are entirely invidious.

Pro bono Publico is a Misnomer.

The Adventures of a Rat-Catcher have been properly applied—by this Time they may be found floating in the adjacent Common Sewer.

Cui Bono? though a good borrowed Title, is good for nothing.

Alexis is pleasant, amorous, and *indecent*, and for the last Reason inadmissible.

Folio, Quarto, and Duodecimo are all together too voluminous.

A Journeyman Author we have Reason to believe has not yet served his Apprenticeship.

Under Consideration, Letters signed *Milkerd*. *The real Fashionable Vowels*, *J. O. U.* *An Adventurer*. *Sans Souci*. *The Spirit of the Times*. *The whole Alphabet in a Flutter*. *Neck or Nothing*. *I could if I could*. *Cautious*. *A Few*. *One of Us*. *A. B. C.* *D. L.* *S. B.* *O. P.* *D. R.*; and many without Signatures.

•• We are happy to find that most of our valuable Correspondents have adverted to our Hints of sending their Favours early in the Month; whereby they will be able to discover we have availed ourselves of many of their Letters.

1 1 1

ADDRESS of the PROPRIETORS of the TOWN AND COUNTRY
MAGAZINE to their READERS.

IT is with inexpressible Pleasure we have this Opportunity of addressing the generous Public, and return them our sincere Acknowledgments, for having so singularly patronized this MAGAZINE, for such a Number of Years, with unremitting Predilection. We flatter ourselves at the same Time, that we have not been wanting in Assiduity and Attention to merit their Favour; and we shall in future endeavour, not only to support those particular Departments of this Miscellany, which have so conspicuously distinguished it from all others, with our usual Spirit, but shall seize every Occasion to strike out new Channels of Instruction and Entertainment.

IN the Course of last Year, we believe, our *Fêtes-à-Têtes* have excited the wonted Curiosity, and merited the accustomed Approbation of our Readers, as well from their Originality and Authenticity, as from the Style and Manner in which they have been conveyed; and we have Reason to expect, by the Favours and Assistance we are promised from different Quarters, that they will be equally interesting and entertaining during the Publication of this Volume.

THE Man of Pleasure, and the Observer, if we may judge from the Number of Correspondents Letters addressed to them, and the Compliments that have accompanied them, have been entitled to the Applause of Men of Taste and Literature: nor has the Delineator or the Termagant been without their Admirers, who we are entitled to think will not be disappointed in the succeeding Numbers in the Expectations they have formed of being amused by the Writers of those Papers.

OUR Theatre has been noticed by the Admirers of the Drama for its Originality as well as Impartiality; and we are promised from some theatrical Correspondents Memoirs and Anecdotes of the Green Room, which will, doubtless, gratify our Readers Curiosity, who are Admirers of scenic Merit and dramatic Beauty.

HAVING said so much respecting the former Line we have pursued, we shall now mention some fresh Paths we propose treading in the Course of this Year.

AT this Crisis, when political Disquisition so much engages the Attention of all the World; when the Speeches and Debates, in both Houses of Par-

liament, are of such Importance, as to ingross the greatest Part of our Newspapers, and necessarily become Matter of the utmost Consequence to all our Readers, we shall endeavour to give an exact Epitome of the most celebrated Orations, and convey the most perfect Idea of the Sentiments of every Speaker upon all interesting Subjects, not by a servile Copy from the daily Prints, as adopted by our Cotemporaries, but by an attentive Digestion of such Materials as we can obtain. This Epitome alone will be a valuable Acquisition even to Posterity; and may, without Vanity, be said to rival the parliamentary Registers so much boasted of.

FROM the same Motive we shall submit to our Readers a new Paper, under the Title of the *Bye-stander*, which will be dedicated solely to political Dissertations, with the strictest Impartiality to all Parties; and in order to support it with Propriety, Spirit, and Candour, we request the Assistance of such Gentlemen as chuse to convey their Sentiments, upon public Measures, on either Side of the Question. We at the same Time recommend, that they may be treated with Moderation and Decency, not to offend personally, or raise imaginary Evils, to terrify and dismay the blinded Populace. In this Respect we would chuse to be pointed without Malignity, and critical without Asperity

As Asiatic Transactions now solicit the Attention of the Public, and as the Carnatic War is the Subject of Investigation of a Secret Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to make an Enquiry into the State of our Affairs in India, and the Causes of that War, we judge our Readers will not be displeas'd with the History of Indostan, which we shall begin to present them with in this Number.

WE cannot conclude this Address without returning our sincere Thanks to our numerous Correspondents, who have enabled us to enrich this Miscellany with many of their valuable Productions, and to request their future Aid, as they may rest assured that all their Favours, which come within the Circle of our Plan, shall have due Attention paid them.

Our Theatre has been enrich'd by the Addition of the Drama for its Originality as well as Impartiality; and we are pleas'd from some theatrical Correspondents Members and Auditors of the Green Room, which will doubtless gratify our Readers Curiosity, who are Admirers of scenic-Mean and dramatic Beauty.

HAVING said so much respecting the former Part we have pursued, we shall now mention somewhat Part we propose treating in the Course of this Year.

At this Crisis, when political Disputations so much engage the Attention of the World; when the Speeches and Debates in both Houses of Par-



The Town and Country Magazine; OR, UNIVERSAL REPOSITORY

OF
Knowledge, Instruction, and Entertainment.

For JANUARY, 1782.

The STATE of EUROPE for JANUARY, 1782.

TO take a minute view of the present state of affairs in Europe, America, and Asia, would require a far greater compass than can be admitted in a work of this nature; we must therefore content ourselves in tracing the outlines with as much precision as we are capable.

The mediation of the czarina and the emperor of Germany, to restore peace amongst the belligerent powers of Europe, which in the course of last year, we were flattered would produce a congress to be held by the plenipotentiaries from the different courts interested in so desirable an event, is no longer spoken of, and seems to be as far distant as ever. Indeed the overtures which been made through the mediation of the empress of Russia, to promote the restoration of tranquility between Great Britain and Holland, do not seem to have been approved of by either party; at least we do not learn that any steps

have been taken to forward this business. So that after all which has been said and proposed to restore the tranquility of Europe, either in whole or in part, we remain exactly in the same predicament as we did several months past.

The capitulation of our troops under the command of lord Cornwallis at York-town, has given our affairs in North America a very different turn; and government have resolved no longer to pursue an offensive but a defensive war in that part, by protecting such posts and possessions as still remain there in our hands, and annoying the enemy only by sea. We are under great apprehensions for our West India islands, particularly Barbadoes and Antigua, which some imagine are already in the hands of the enemy. The capture of St. Eustatia by a handful of men, when we had a garrison so much superior to the French who landed, is astonishing, and occasions many suspicions, no way favourable to the commanding officer upon that island.

Most

Most probably from the two preceding events, the Dutch, who appeared a short time before very ready to accept of the mediation of the czarina, in order to settle the differences between them and us, have changed their sentiments, and judge it their interest to continue the war, assisted by successful auxiliaries; more especially as the French general took possession of the island of Eustatia, not in the name of the king his master, but that of the States-general.

With regard to the sieges of Gibraltar and Fort St. Philip, the Spaniards seem to be as far distant from carrying those fortresses, as the first day they opened the batteries against them. The late glorious and successful fall at Gibraltar, in which the Spaniards chief battery was so competely demolished, and their guns spiked, reflects great honour upon the officers who had the command of that operation; and clearly evinces that the governor will never surrender unless famine shall compel him. The same can be said of general Murray at Fort St. Philip; and we may, therefore, conclude that the Spaniards are heartily sick of both those enterprizes.

The state of the East India company's affairs in Asia, wore a very bad aspect in the beginning of last year: the rapid progress of Hyder Ally's arms in the Carnatic, was truly alarming; but since Sir Eyre Coote has taken the command upon the coast of Coromandel, and repulsed Hyder, who sustained considerable loss, there is the greatest reason to believe that general will pursue the advantages he has gained, and restore the company's power and influence in that quarter of the world.

At home our chief attention has been for some time fixed on petitions and remonstrances to his majesty, in which the city of London took the lead; but finding they would not be permitted to present it to the king upon the throne, they declined presenting it on a levee day. This circumstance probably has checked the

different counties, except that of Middlesex, from drawing up similar petitions and remonstrances, being convinced that they would have met with a like reception.

The other object of public curiosity, is an enquiry into the conduct of the first lord of the admiralty, relative to the navy. This enquiry, which is expected to be speedily instituted, was occasioned by admiral Kempenselt's being sent out with only twelve sail of the line to intercept the Brest fleet, and convoy, the first of which consisted of 19 sail of the line. Admiral Kempenselt, nevertheless, acquitted himself with uncommon judgment, and has met with just applause, having captured fifteen transports that are safe arrived in our ports, besides destroying some others. These transports had on board warlike and naval stores, ammunition, troops, &c. to a considerable amount, and were destined for the French West India islands, where their loss will, doubtless, be severely felt.

Such is the outline of the present state of affairs at home and abroad, and which presents us with a critical prospect in regard to our future operations and proceedings in Europe and America. A rumor of a change in administration, which prevailed for some days, has since subsided; and we cannot learn, with any degree of certainty, that either the secretary of state for the American department, or the first lord of the admiralty, who were said to have resigned, propose retiring.

THE T H E A T R E.

NUMBER CXLV.

WE have received some letters from correspondents, requiring to know the reason we have not taken notice, in our Supplement, of the Pantomime called *Lun's Ghost*? All that we can reply in return, is, that we seldom make mention of Pantomimes, unless they are entirely original, and possess singular merit in that line; and even at best, our greatest eulogiums must dwell upon the scene painter, the

the machinest, and the scene shifter—the agility of the motley hero, and the rapidity of his enamorata's motions. After we have done this, we can add little more, than that the airs * are pretty, and well introduced—but what can be said for the mere *Ghost* of a *Pantomime*? but that "Shadows have their shadows too."

No other new dramatic production has appeared since our last, though we are assured several are in rehearsal at both Theatres, and will speedily be performed; and amongst these are two new Comedies, one at each house, which it is thought will hold an equipoise for some time: another, called the *Foresters*, is also getting up at Drury-lane; a Comedy, written by Mrs. Brooke, is likewise preparing; and we are well assured, that Dr. Franklin's *Muse* has not been idle during last summer: but these cannot be expected to make their appearance whilst the pantomimes bring sufficient houses to make it the managers interest to continue their exhibition.

Mrs. Barnes has just made her first appearance in the character of *Alicia*, in *Jane Shore*. This lady possesses a beautiful countenance, a good figure, and an extensive powerful voice—great requisites to form a good actress, which Mrs. Barnes promises to become, as much as any young performer that we recollect seeing make her first essay upon the stage. There is not, perhaps, in the whole circle of the Drama, a more difficult part for a young performer than that of *Alicia*; as it not only demands more than a common portion of theatrical talents, but an extraordinary share of clear and discriminating judgment, and a happy disposition of features to mark the various agitations of the passions that are called into play. In these respects she succeeded beyond expectation. We do not, however, hold up Mrs. Barnes as a complete actress; the idea would be ridiculous, as experience must afford great aid in maturing a capital performer. Amongst her faults we cannot refrain pointing out, that she seems to have studied art more than nature; the former should be concealed, or at least be so tempered as not to appear glaring; for the moment it becomes conspicuously elaborate, it becomes if not irksome at least

* For the most favourite air in the *Pantomime*, see the *Poetry*.

uninteresting. This lady has twice since made her appearance in the same character, which we think she has performed with much improvement. We cannot, therefore, help congratulating the admirers of the drama upon this acquisition to the stage, to which we think she will prove a considerable ornament.

The ADVERTISER EXTRAORDINARY.

Intelligence from Matter of Fact.

OUR political theatrical critic has sent us an account of several political pieces lately performed which we are happy to lay before our readers.

The Committee, with the Devil to Pay.

Between the play and entertainment the *Cries of London*, were delivered by Mess. G.—and N.—but rather unfavourably received. The principal characters were performed by oppositional members.

The Journey to London, with the Touchstone.

This play, though a favourite at the present season of the year, would not have been performed, but for the entertainment, which was well received. Nothing under full price was taken.

The Trip to Calais, with the Elopement.

These pieces were got up for the relief of several indigent families; and, considering performers, were members of the *Kings Bench* and *Fleet colleges*, were *passable*.

A New way to pay Old Debts, with the Humours of an Election.

Sir W—L— had before attempted the principal characters in these pieces, but was not well supported—however he has made ample amends in the present attempt, and succeeded equal to his most sanguine expectation.

Every Man in his Humour, with the Author.

It was impossible to form an idea on which side the majority was; some approved, while others discommended, the person who played the principal part in these pieces—but this we are in justice bound to declare, "We believe he did his utmost to please all."

The Mistakes of a Night, with the Divorce.

These pieces are generally together—the Divorce most commonly following the mistakes of a night. Lady C—shined in the comedy but lord C—was unfavourably received in the Farce.

Parodical Description of MISS PARK, in the County of Middlesex.

"This no common object to your sight displays,
But what with pleasure heaven itself surveys."

IF natural elegance, rural simplicity, and the resort of a few good and worthy characters can recommend, this spot must be esteemed. Intrigues, gallantry, and dissipation, render Windsor, St. James's and Greenwich Parks pleasing to the gay, the wild, and the extravagant; and antiquity delights the pensive, but *Miss Park* commands not attention from any of these; nor is it to be wondered at, for the dissipated, immoral, or ill-bred, are never suffered to approach: those who find access are the friends of the worthy steward, selected and esteemed for their virtuous accomplishments; and none who could be suspected capable of violating the strictest rules of decency, good-breeding, and decorum, are admitted to that happiness: the affable, the sensible, the discreet, here alone are permitted to solace themselves. This beautiful assemblage is arranged by nature with the strictest symmetry—The bloom of lilies and roses is seen here throughout the year, without the aid of art. It has two gates of admission ever open to *Virtue, Humanity, and Beneficence*, but sometimes *vices* disguised enter, in spite of all the care of *Prudence* (the constant attendant) to keep them away, but as the gates are directly oppo-

site each other, they are immediately let out on the other side, for *Understanding*, the offspring of *Prudence*, always detects, but never countenances them, and that not even the smallest impression of their walk should remain, the rolling stone of *Oblivion* smooths the paths of *Virtue* by levelling the footsteps of *Vice*. Through two small coral banks, which project before two ivory ledges, proceeds an air that circulates throughout, more fragrant than ambrosia: over these, two beautiful orbs, that seem to emulate the sun in its meridian glory, bestow throughout the day their radiant lustre—while the front displays a most majestic appearance; in short, the whole affords a paragon of excellence, that outvies all description, and is an example of taste and ability worthy the most exalted imitation.—It is now on the eve of disposal: the unwearied assiduity of a worthy superintendant has, after nineteen years trouble and care, brought it to that state of perfection, which may make the most enobled envy the possessor. But the price is above titles or riches. Love and virtue must effect the purchase, which will be granted for one life certain; and it may please the *omnipotent lessor* to make it reversionary, but it will never be disposed of to a tenant at will, or sacrificed to a man incapable of keeping it in good and sufficient repair.

The honest and happy man who raised this *delightful PARK*, has afforded by it an example of virtue, beauty, and morality; while, in the formation of other *modern PARKS*, can only be discovered the gratification of idle pride, which, alas! frequently hurls destruction on the possessor, who too often lives to see the anxious cares and produce of his ancestors, torn down by the torrent of his own extravagance, and repents too late. The other, blest man! all his endeavours succeed, for they are directed by discretion; while he lives, he enforces the precepts of morality by the goodness of example, and when he dies, he leaves to his family what they cannot mortgage, and which in the direst day of adversity they cannot be bereft of—education! Such is the guardian of this inclosure.—Grant me, O heavens! but his virtues and *Miss PARK*, and I'll envy not the other finest *Park* on earth, nor all the wealth of the proprietor.

THOMAS R——N.

let
he
out
not
lk
li-
li-
wo
re
at
an
s,
an
fir
a
ne
e,
x-
ne
ne
of
e-
o
e
e
d
ll
y
-
f
n
-
d
t
-
r
e
!
-
-
e
-
f
d
t
e



N^o II.



M^{rs} W. G.

N^o III.



The gallant Admiral.

London, Published at 168. 1. 1782 by A. Hamilton Junr. Fleet-Street.

HISTORIES of the Tête-à-Tête annexed:
or, Memoirs of the GALLANT AD-
MIRAL and Mrs. W—ST. (No.
2. 3.)

WE have had occasion, in the course of the memoirs under this head, to introduce several officers, both naval and military, whose skill, bravery, and personal merit, have seemed to vie with each other for peculiar distinction; but we have not since the commencement of these Histories, been enabled to present our readers with the portrait of an officer, more justly entitled than our hero, to the appellation of the Gallant Admiral, in the full latitude of the expression.

This gentleman is the son of a naval officer, who bore the king's commission for a series of years, and was an honour to his profession. He trained up his son to the same service, after giving him a liberal and genteel education, which improved a very good understanding, and added ease and grace to an elegant and prepossessing figure. At a time when our sea officers piqued themselves solely upon a thorough knowledge of nautical learning, and thought it more honourable to walk the quarter-deck like a British tar, than enter a drawing room as a petit maître, our hero blended the man of the world and the gentleman with the son of Neptune, and the bold enterprizing sailor.

The Gallant Admiral had scarce attained the *toga virili*, before he became a great favourite of the fair-sex, and though he had as yet not been able to figure in any other circles than the sea-ports, he often met with ladies of beauty and fortune, at Plymouth and Portsmouth, Chatham and Sheerness, where he constantly opened the balls, and had his choice of partners for the remainder of the evening. At the latter of those places he made acquaintance with the daughter of a captain in the navy, who was esteemed a toast upon the *ton*. She had seen the captain (at that time) in town, and was greatly struck with his person

and behaviour at Ranelagh, where she once drank tea with him; but his precipitate departure to attend his duty, prevented her cultivating any farther intimacy at that period. Finding he was gone to Sheerness, she availed herself of the pretext of paying a visit to her father, who was then at that port, to repair thither, and was so fortunate as to get a lodging in the very house where our hero took up his quarters. As they frequently dined together, it being a boarding house, the correspondence she wished for soon ensued, and she became his frequent partner at the assembly, greatly to the mortification of the rest of the ladies, who viewed her with a very jealous eye, as she was considered by them as their general rival. Indeed the intimacy became so visible between the captain and Miss M——, and the well known friendship that had for a considerable time subsisted between him and her father, induced many to believe that a matrimonial treaty was on foot between them. In effect, Miss M—— wished for nothing more ardently, and threw out every inuendo, that she could, with decency, to signify her sentiments and disposition; and the captain was not such a novice in the art of love, as not to understand her meaning, and he would willingly have improved the opportunity, and pressed his suit, as Miss M—— was a tall, genteel, black girl, for whom he entertained a great partiality; but there was one obstacle, which, in his present situation, he could not with prudence surmount: this was the smallness of her fortune. Probably she had thrown herself so much at his mercy, that had he given way to the impulse of a momentary passion, he might have prevailed in the gratification of his wishes, upon less honourable terms than she desired; but the esteem he had for her father, prevented his entertaining a thought of this kind, which as soon as it presented itself he banished from his mind.

Such was the state of affairs between

tween the captain and Miss M—, when his ship was ordered to the coast of Holland, and he remained at Flushing some time, where he became very intimate in the best families, the Dutch ladies being very anxious to have him, as often as possible, for their guest. Although he did not estimate female charms, according to the scale of beauty in Holland, where it is said to be valued by the *run*, not the *ton*, he nevertheless found some very agreeable *en bon point*s, who tho' they were not prone to straight lacing, were not disgusting by their superabundance of flesh. Amongst these he passed many agreeable hours, and found much solace in their company, notwithstanding the supposed *phlegm* which is said to pervade the national constitution of that country. In a word, the Dutch ladies recommended themselves for two reasons, first, they were very affable and generous in bestowing their favours, and notwithstanding the innate avarice which is ascribed to their husbands, their liberality went hand-in-hand with their affections.

We have been the more particular in describing our hero's good fortune in the capacity of a man of gallantry in Holland, as we seldom hear of a Dutch intrigue, or any demireps, or impures, but those of the lowest class, who are a scandal to their sex, and a profanation of the fond idea that is annexed to a beautiful desirable woman.

Some time after this the Gallant Admiral made a tour to the Spa, and took Aix-la-Chapelle in his route. Madame B— then kept a capital hotel in that city, which was much crowded on account of the congress that was upon the point of being held there, and where the treaty that bears its name was afterwards concluded.

Our hero putting up at this hotel, had frequent opportunities of conversing with Mademoiselle B—, who was the hostess's daughter, and the occasional bar-maid. She was a tall, genteel young lady, with a very engaging countenance, had received a polite education, possessed a very a-

agreeable voice, and seemed to be animated with all the Parisian vivacity, which so peculiarly distinguishes the females of that metropolis. To say that the Gallant Admiral viewed Miss B— with indifference, would be to paint him a stoic very uncharacteristically; but though he contemplated her charms with admiration, and was greatly entertained with her conversation and singing, he at that time harboured not the smallest design against her virtue; and the same cause that operated against Miss M— at Sheerness, had its weight at Aix-la-Chapelle with respect to Mademoiselle B—. There is the greatest reason to believe, that the young lady would have received his addresses with much pleasure, and more satisfaction, than she did afterwards those of her *caro sposo*, who then ranked in a higher station than our hero in the naval line.

After passing some weeks in the Austrian Netherlands, the Gallant Admiral returned to England, and soon afterwards made acquaintance with a most amiable young lady, with a very ample fortune. A match equally congenial to all parties soon ensued, and they were pronounced as happy a couple as any in the county of Middlesex.

In the mean while a certain admiral, who has rendered himself pretty conspicuous upon many occasions, particularly in the courts of law, made a tour to Aix-la-Chapelle, and put up at the same hotel which our hero had some time before quitted. Though already somewhat advanced in years, the veteran commander had the bravery to lay siege to Mademoiselle B—'s charms, and she soon capitulated with the honours of war to so able a commander. After the nuptials he brought his bride over to England, and being afterwards invested with a very important commission in the West Indies, he took his lady with him.

Fate determined that our hero should be appointed to the command of a ship of war upon the same station; but

but notwithstanding the sincere affection he entertained for his wife, he did not judge it adviseable to make her a passenger on board his ship. Benedick the married man, with his *cara sposa*, arrived about the same time as our hero, at one of the largest of our West India islands. The latter was soon introduced to the bride—but prudence dictated that they should appear entire strangers to each other, as Benedick was of a very jealous disposition, and considered every man younger than himself, with an agreeable person, as his professed rival.

The parties remained upon the island for a considerable time, till our hero was recalled, when the veteran admiral committed his wife to his care to convey her to England, having some strong suspicions of one of the officers of the garrison, whom he viewed as a dangerous rival. But mark the sequel: at that time the lady was perfectly innocent; yet her resentment, being roused by her husband's groundless suspicions, she resolved to avail herself of the first opportunity to be revenged; and in whom could she meet with so desirable an object, to carry her design into execution as our hero, for whom she had entertained a *penchant* prior to her present matrimonial engagement? This the sequel evinced, and old *Nauticus* to avoid *Charybdis* split on *Scylla*.

In a word, the lady gave our hero so many opportunities, and almost importunities, as he could not resist yielding to the impulse of a passion which had long actuated his breast, and which he thought he might now gratify with impunity, and without forfeiting his honour, as he had never professed any friendship for her husband, or been upon good terms with him, notwithstanding external civilities. Such was the sequel, though it eventually proved very disagreeable to our hero, as Cornuto having gained intelligence of the intrigue, and sufficient evidence to prove *crim. con.* instituted a suit against the Gallant Admiral, and laid his damages at a very considerable sum, part of which

he obtained by a verdict in his favour. It is said that Cornuto afterwards took his faithless wife into favour, and introduced her at a certain foreign court, where he obtained a considerable command.

We shall not dwell upon many other adventures, which justly entitle our hero to the appellation of the Gallant Admiral, in that sense of the word; nor need we enumerate the several actions in which he has been engaged, which equally give him claim to the title of a gallant officer, in the other signification of the epithet; as all his fellow-officers, the seamen who have served under him, and indiscriminately every one of his acquaintance, who must recognize him by the subjoined portrait, if not by these memoirs, can testify.

It is time to introduce the heroine of this history, which we do upon the presumption of believing our hero a widower.

Mrs. W—st is the daughter of a master and commander in the royal navy, who fell in an action at the beginning of this war, soon after she had married a young midshipman, for whom she entertained a very great partiality. Not long after their nuptials he went abroad, and being taken prisoner by the Americans, was, from the severity he met with whilst in confinement, and the gaol disorder which he caught, carried off in the prime of life.

A young beautiful widow at Portsmouth could not fail having many admirers; but experience had taught her now to be more cautious in making a second engagement. The life of a sailor is so precarious, and their œconomy so seldom heard of, that she was fearful, if she gave her hand again to a volatile son of Neptune, she might be left in still greater distress than she at present experienced. No officer of rank had made her any proposal that she could accept, till our hero, having learnt her story, found means to be introduced to her. He was greatly captivated with her personal attractions, and her mental accomplish-

complishments. He contrived to make her a genteel present, of which she stood greatly in need, without offending her delicacy, and, at the same time, communicated some overtures, which she afterwards judged it prudent not to reject.

This connexion has now subsisted for some time to their mutual satisfaction; as no man is better acquainted with the art of pleasing the fair-sex; and no woman studies more successfully to anticipate all his wants and wishes. We may therefore conclude, that this union will be of no short duration; for though he is now appointed to a capital command abroad, and is upon the point of leaving our heroine, he has made her such ample provision during his absence, as must at once secure her affection and fidelity, and excite her gratitude and

We shall here drop the pen, wishing the Gallant Admiral all the success in his new expedition, to which his merit, gallantry, and abilities so justly entitle him; and our heroine to enjoy a perfect state of health, and the utmost tranquillity of mind, to receive him upon his return with all those charms and attractions, which have so powerfully operated in determining his choice.

THE COFFEE-HOUSE.

NUMBER XIV.

To the EDITOR of the COFFEE-HOUSE.

S I R,

THE other day lounging about the Piazza, Covent Garden, I met with my old friend, Bob Ranger. As I had been out of town some time, and was a stranger to the new faces upon the town, I promised myself a treat in so luckily meeting with Bob, as I knew his whole time is passed in getting acquainted with new faces, and fresh characters, as they appear and spring up.

We repaired to the Bedford coffee-house, and I found myself in a circle to

whom I was an entire stranger. We adjourned to an adjacent box, the most reclusive in the room, and at my request he gave me the following sketches.

That tall lean figure in the great coat, and large bag, who is just entered, is piping hot arrived from Aberdeen, where he is a professor of *humanity*, in order to teach the English the proper pronunciation of their own language, which he can prove is very defective from the best *Scottish authorities*. He thinks to make his fortune in a few months, as he expects that all the members of both Houses will be his pupils, as well as all the gentlemen of the long robe, who propose speaking in public. Upon the strength of these more than flattering prospects, he has not only taken an elegant house in the purlieus of Westminster, in order to be near his scholars, which he is now furnishing in a sumptuous manner, but has ordered a very elegant equipage at Hatcher's, though it is well known all the clothes he has in the world are upon his back, that he is unpossessed of an *undercoat*, and he cannot persuade a Scotch taylor in town to give him credit for a suit.

The squat man in black, with his hat under his arm, and who looks as much like a Jew as any one of the tribe of Levi, is a self created doctor—He despises degrees and diplomas, as his art is not to promote health, or preserve life—but to destroy it. He lives by a medicine which is the bane of what should be the rising generation. In a word, Sir, he is a doctor of abortions, and gets more money by killing, than half of the faculty do by curing.

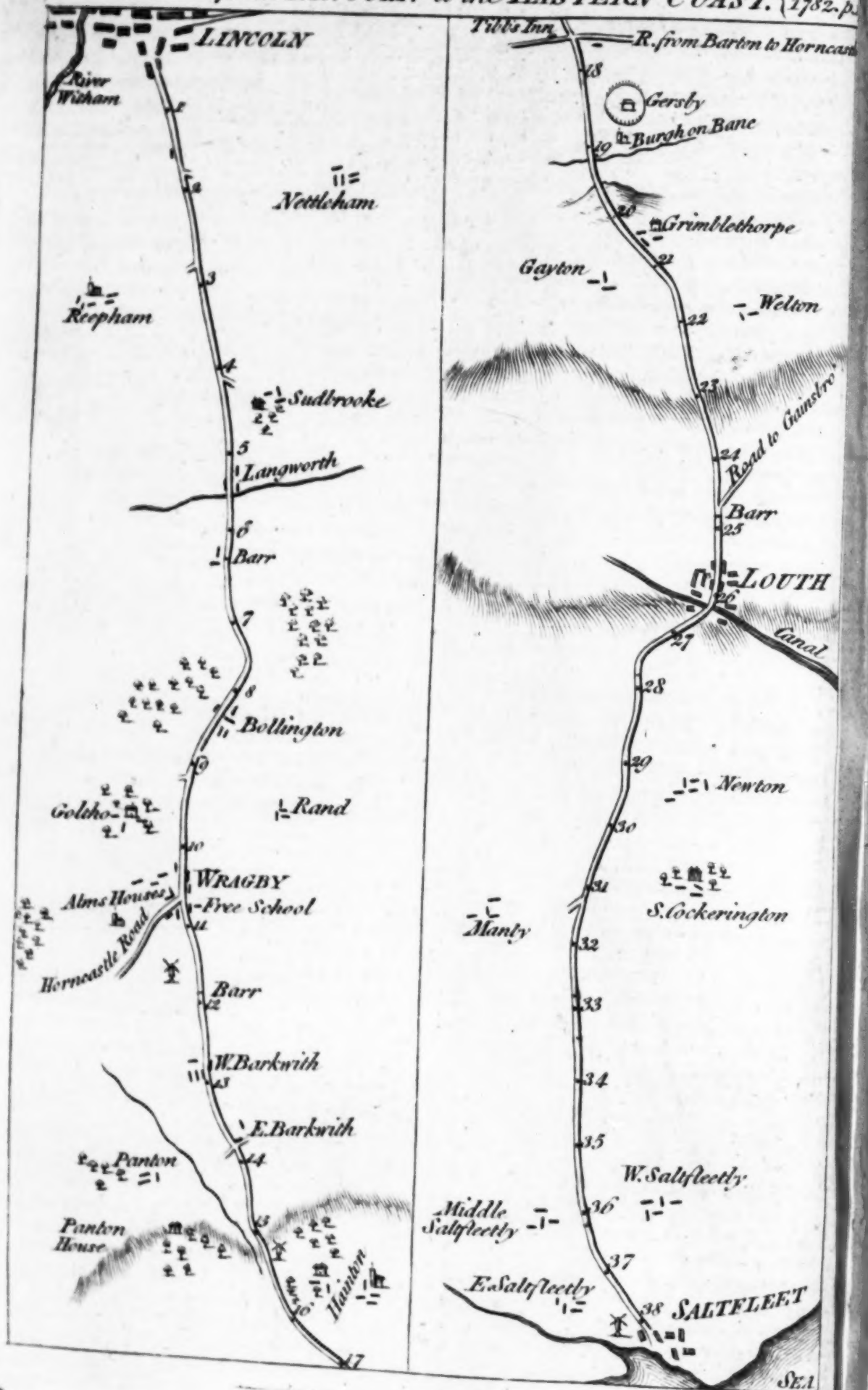
The thin little gentleman, who comes in rolling his thumbs one over the other, is the greatest *pantomime critic* in Europe. You may perceive he is now studying a Harlequin trip, as he gives a pantomime himself next week at his villa in Surry. No man is better skilled in dumb expression—he can communicate a rhetorical figure with a nod—a metaphor with a shrug, and an allegory with a twist of his hat. Irony he expresses with a rap of his wooden sword, and parody by turning round upon his heel. He is now at a parody, he is turning upon his heel, and raking himself off.

The simpering youth in the green and gold is a professed story teller. He has got ash Joe Miller by heart, carries Quin's Jests in his pocket, and has translated all the equivoques, and jeux d'esprit of Moliere le jeune.

7e ad-
ost re-
est he

coat,
l, is
here
er to
cia-
can
best
ake
ects
will
le-
k-
of
he
in
ro
w
nt
at
ll
n
-
h
a

ROAD from LINCOLN to the EASTERN COAST. {Gent. M. 1782. p.



je
p
g
h
o
ty
Si
ha
fe
lo
tu
co
lia

is
En
gr
in
pa
is,
bil
rap
him
bra
to
the
any
hav
ters
pos
his
tak
wit
dita
him
with
lab
whi
lips
to a
wor
appr
and
her
morn
tea
the
leat
— bu
never
Lo
he is
neat
in the
met
here
Falt
fortu
that
not g

jeune. However, he frequently loses the point in the translation, and is often greatly astonished that nobody laughs at his jest, which was an exceeding good one when he read it.

Dr Sententious sits next to him in the tye wig, and now he speaks to reprove Simper, for risking his jokes without having duly weighed their value and effect. Listen—"Story telling, Sir, is the lottery of genius, which no one should venture playing deep in, without possessing a considerable stock of sterling wit and brilliant humour."

The hopping parson that has just arose, is one of the most celebrated poetasters in England—he indeed fancies himself the greatest favourite of the Muses of any man in Europe. He has certainly taken more pains in torturing his genius, such as it is, than any dabbler in rhyme within the bills of mortality. Odes, epigrams, epitaphs, enigmas, rebutes, are all alike to him, and he is equally successful in every branch; he has not, however, been able to persuade one of the publishers either of the Magazines or the Newspapers to print any one of his productions, and they have given orders never to take in his letters, either from town or country, tho' post paid, ever since they have recognized his hand writing. He has for some time taken it into his head to be enamoured with a young lady of fortune, who is a distant relation, but who heartily despises him. He presented her the other day with a copy of verses, which he had been labouring at for above a fortnight, in which he compared her eyes to jet, her lips to coral, her teeth to ivory, her neck to alabaster, and her whole frame, in one word, to Venus: he eagerly waited her approbation, after she had perused them, and anticipated her plaudits by assuring her "Pon honour they were penned that morning extempore, whilst he sipped his tea!" when, greatly to his astonishment, she shrewdly remarked, she did not in the least dispute their being written *extempore*—but would advise him as a friend never to write *extempore* again.

Lo! enters, said Bob, Mr. Buskin: he is just arrived from Dublin, and is neat as imported; he has trod the boards in that metropolis as well as Corke, and met with some applause. He is now come here to supply all Quin's parts: Cato and Falstaff are his chief characters—but unfortunately he is obstinate to a degree that can scarcely be paralleled, he will not give up that *pronunciation*, which has

pronounced him so great an actor. Mr. H—— has remonstrated with him; but in vain, so that he is resolved to apply to Mr. S——, whom he thinks, as a fellow countryman and a patriot, will stick to Hibernia, and all her rights, privileges, and immunities—in the *language* of a true-born Irishman.

My friend Bob would have gratified my curiosity much farther; but he was called out upon some particular business, and I lost a fine opportunity of gaining characteristic intelligence; but I flatter myself, I shall meet him again soon, when I doubt not but I shall be able to complete the *Bedford* gallery, and there are many niches still unoccupied. In this case I shall renew my correspondence, and for the present, subscribe myself,

Your very humble servant,

RUSTICUS.

☞ The Editor would be glad to hear from this gentleman, at any time, even though he should not be able to complete his gallery.

The TERMAGANT, No. V.

To the TERMAGANT.

Dear Madam,

YOU cannot conceive how I am delighted with your paper, and still more so with the thoughts of a Scolding Club, under those judicious regulations as Mrs. secretary Termagant-in-grain has set forth in your last number. Such noble rewards for such heroic exploits would have been worthy of the Amazons of old, who had no such stimulus as golden medals, for slaying those monsters, those he-creatures, men, who were formed to be our domestic animals and itinerant slaves.

I most earnestly wish to be a member of that laudable society, for the preservation of the laws and liberties of true-born Englishwomen. Too long have the men arrogated to themselves the titles of our lords and masters—vain ridiculous presumption! that never existed but in idea, when they were united to dastardly pusillanimous wives, who did not dare to assert their prerogatives. It is high time we should convince them of their mistake, and bring them to a proper sense of their duty and obedience, and never was a more glorious

glorious opportunity, or a finer establishment, for accomplishing this great and desirable end.

There is but one article in the code which affects me, and that indeed too sensibly. It is indeed the very first—"No member to be admitted under the age of twenty-one years." I am, however, in hopes that it is a mistake of the printer, for alas! I am only seventeen; but then, madam, my pretensions will in a short time, perhaps a few days, in every other respect be indubitable—it is now about a twelvemonth since I made an elopement from the boarding-school, and a trip to Scotland with my dancing master. I soon perceived my mistake, and that I had condescended to give my hand to a man so much my inferior; I therefore resolved to get rid of him as soon as possible. I was determined to use neither arsenic or laurel water; but to scold him, as the secretary very judiciously files it, *secundum artem* to death. Accordingly, upon our return from Scotland, before the *honey week* was completed, I entered upon my course of lectures—and a fine time he had of it; till I scolded him into a brimstone *vis-a-vis*, an elegant side board of plate, and at length, into the King's Bench, where he died of a broken heart in about three months—cursing and damning his *good fortune* for having run away with an heiress, who had ruined him, and scolded him to death in so short a time.

Having thus easily got rid of Mr. Pafgrave, I had many suitors; but resolving not to make a similar mistake, to that which I had done before, I looked to the main chance, and agreed to go over to Ostend with Mr. Poundage (who had amass'd a considerable fortune in capacity of steward to the duke of ———), on condition of his making me a handsome settlement. We have been returned from the continent about six weeks, and I have performed my part so well as a thorough bred Termagant, that he is now given over, and lies at the point of death.

After having thus set forth my pretensions to become a member of the laudable Society of Scolds, and considering how much I promise to be an ornament to the sisterhood, I hope, in case the condition of twenty-one years should not be a mistake, that this article may be dispensed with by a bye-law in my behalf, which will confer an inexpressible obligation on, Madam,

Your very humble servant,

A young, but promising Vixen.

Mrs. Xantippe will lay this letter before the Society at their next meeting, and use her best endeavours to get the article alluded to, dispensed with in behalf of this correspondent.

To the TERMAGANT.

HEIGH! ho! Mrs. Xantippe, I have my doubts and fears concerning the Scolding Society. I approve of the rules, orders, and regulations, as far as Mrs. Secretary has thought proper to divulge them; but there is not a word about the *laus of precedency*, or the *etiquette de politesse*, and you know, Mrs. Termagant, that we women of rank, who move in the most brilliant and elevated circles, can never condescend to associate with plebeians wives and mechanics daughters. To think of a countess sitting next to a tallow-chandler's lady, or a peeress in her own right, being put upon a footing with Mrs. Mite, the cheesemonger's widow—is intolerable; it hurts my delicacy to such a degree, that I am almost ready to faint at the idea—even *eau de luce* has lost its virtue, and I think my senses are already assailed with the fumes of kitchen stuff, and the stench of Irish butter. Oh! how fetid! how rancid!

Again, Mrs. Xantippe, it would be very requisite, before I propose myself a candidate, to know whether the system of scolding is according to the tenets of the *haut-ton*, or whether what may be called *refined Billingsgate*, is admitted upon any occasion; for it would shock my ears to the greatest degree to hear a barbarous expression uttered in my presence.

It is true I have killed two husbands, and am now upon the point of giving a third his *quietus* by mere scolding—but then, madam, this has been done in the most poignant, at the same time elegant language. I have roused their fine feelings by the most acute shafts of ridicule, contempt, and derision; have raised such a tumult amongst their passions, that like the jarring elements they worked dissolution within their breasts, without being able to determine the cause. Their pride, their jealousy, their courage, their manhood, their honour, have been put into one violent ferment, till boiling over with rage, shame, and despair, they shrunk beneath the violence of the conflict.

This, madam, constitutes, *polite matrimonial torture*, before you give a husband the *coup de grace*; and I should be glad to know if this mode of destruction is entirely consistent with your plan?

AN

An answer to the above remarks and queries, will determine me whether I shall propose myself a member at your next meeting.

Yours, &c.

The Countess of ———.

✎ Mrs. Xantippe presents her most respectful compliments to her ladyship, and will take the first opportunity of presenting her letter to the society, whose answer she will doubtless receive in the next Number.

The BYE-STANDER.

NUMBER I.

Melius, pejus, profit, obfit, nil vident
——— nisi quod lubent.

TER.

NO man of common sense will pretend to dispute that this is a very critical period, and it demands our most serious attention, to parry the many thrusts from different quarters, with which we are threatened. At such a crisis, the strictest unanimity should prevail, to strengthen the power of government, and enable it to continue a necessary war, or procure an honourable peace. The principles of any member of society, however specious may be his professions, are to be doubted, who strains every nerve to embarrass and shackle administration in such a situation. If declaimers of this complexion, would approve themselves real patriots and true friends to their country, so far from raising intestine feuds in so alarming a state, they would endeavour by unanimity and good harmony, to enable us to surmount our present difficulties; and if they should even suspect any malversation in office, a time of general tranquility would be much better adapted to any public enquiries, when we should have leisure to pay due attention to every minute part of the investigation, than now, when involved in numberless difficulties, every hour of parliamentary attention is of the greatest value to the safety of the nation.

The reader will certainly, ere this, have discovered, that I allude to a certain inquiry, that has just been instituted, with respect to the conduct of a nobleman at the head of a great department in government. I shall not pretend to vindicate that peer's conduct in every

respect, or attempt to prove that his measures have been crowned with desired success in each particular instance; but shall endeavour impartially, to consider how far the present inquiry is, at this time, proper, and whether it does not wear the complexion more of party prejudice, personal enmity, or disappointed ambition, than candid zeal, public equity, and unbiassed justice.

The foundation of this enquiry seems to be laid upon an expression § of the noble lord in question, in a certain great assembly some years since, at a time that it was not foreseen France and Spain would unite against us in behalf of the revolted Americans, and be afterwards strengthened by the assistance of our false friends and insidious foes the Dutch. Was not that a much more proper period to have canvassed the propriety of that expression, uttered in the warmth of debate, and which never could mean, according to the most arbitrary interpretation of the words, to imply, that we should be a match at sea for the French, Spaniards, Dutch, and Americans? Laboured and fallacious as the application of these words have been made to the present times, has the contrary yet been proved? where have our fleets been beaten? when has our naval honour been tarnished? Alas! but on one day, when our great nautical commander, who has been almost idolized for losing, or rather sacrificing the most favourable opportunity that has presented itself during this war, of bringing our natural foes to a just sense of their turpitude and insincerity—to wait for the enemy's behaving *handsomely* the next morning. Here was a subject for proper inquiry—but prejudice, partiality, and the rage of the times prevailed, to blacken and bespatter a man who had done his duty, to raise upon his ruins the idol of party, folly, and ignorance.

To pursue this consideration a little farther: let the greatest and most brazen zealot of opposition, and the most determined antagonist of lord S——— answer, has the British or the Bourbon navy suffered most in the course of this war? or, in other words, have they taken more of our ships of war, than we have of theirs?

§ The words alluded to are said to be these: "That the first lord of the Admiralty who did not keep a fleet equal to that of the House of Bourbon, in readiness for sea, deserved to lose his head."

If

If this must be answered in our favour, what avails their *blasphemous* superiority—upon paper? If it be *real*, their shame is the greater. Facts are stubborn things, and in all arguments, which are not meant to be supported by sophistry, they should be constantly adverted to.

This, perhaps, may appear a strange doctrine to modern politicians, who debate to mislead, who reason to confuse, and who never aim at confutation, though they too frequently find it recoil upon themselves, from their own fallacious logic.

It is pleasant to observe with what ease and facility our rhetorical patriots call in Providence to their assistance, and to the support of their reasoning. If any miscarriages occur by land or sea, it is owing to the criminality, the treachery, or imbecility of the ministry, who should all lose their heads for not having performed miracles, foreseen events by intuition, and counteracted chance and the influence of the elements. But when our arms or our operations are attended with success, and we distress the enemy in the most essential manner, no merit is to be derived from these events, either by the officers in actual service, or the minister who planned the expeditions; all such favourable circumstances are to be ascribed to Providence, and Providence only, who, we are told, is our only ally—Luckily for us, we have such a powerful one still left, who we find by experience, according to this very doctrine, is more to be depended upon than either Dutch friendship, or Gallic fidelity.

The late motion in a certain assembly for the inquiry already mentioned, keeps pace with the mode of reasoning we have already noticed. For upwards of four years the first lord of the Admiralty stands *self-condemned*, it is urged, for his conduct respecting the navy; but the honourable gentleman who made the motion, is unwilling to give the House too much trouble by examining his proceedings any farther back than the last twelve months, a period that has, in the course of that time, been the least unsuccessful of any to us by sea. This retrospect will not comprehend the declaration of the noble lord upon which so much stress has been laid, and which has been artfully tortured to prove his criminality. We are in the same breath told, that the examination of the papers required to investigate his lordship's conduct during the year 1781, will not take up but a

few hours: this being admitted, the perusal of the papers necessary for the same purpose relative to the three preceding years, would not consequently take up more than three times as many hours; and yet, notwithstanding we are taught to believe the object under consideration is of the most alarming nature, *one day* (for the number of hours required would not have amounted to more) is thought too much to be allotted for so important a business. Strange logic! when we have known many days ingrossed by debates of a far more frivolous nature!

I must acknowledge I was greatly disappointed in hearing the mover of this inquiry make use of such puerile, such futile arguments, when he might have called into his aid some that would have had at least the air of plausibility. Such as—why did not the first lord of the Admiralty keep pace, during the time of peace, with the house of Bourbon, in building ship for ship with them, which would have put us upon an equality, if not given us a superiority over them in point of naval strength? But the answer is obvious: we had not docks sufficient to have pursued this plan, as has been made appear; and the ships of war that have, in general, been built by private contract, have proved to be crazy rotten vessels, that have fallen to pieces after one or two cruizes. Or, why did he not flourish upon the subject of the expensive and destructive American war, and urge, forcibly urge, that if the many millions which have been squandered to no purpose on the other side of the Atlantic, had been applied to the reinforcement of our navy, it must have been the greatest ever known in the world, and far superior to the combined naval power of all Europe? The answer is here ready: the reply to the preceding interrogatory still remains in full force; and can it be supposed that such amazing grants would have passed, without the cogent reasons that have been assigned for demanding them? Should we not, if estimates for that purpose had been laid before the House, have heard that such sums were meant for private speculation, to rob the public, promote bribery and corruption, and entirely overturn the constitution?

I have for the present sufficiently pursued this subject, and shall now leave it in much abler hands; a committee of the House of Commons, who are at this very instant entering upon its investigation.

The HERMIT.

In the manner of CAMBRAY.

TWAS in that delightful month which love prefers before all others, and which most reveres his Deity; that month which ever weaves a verdant carpet for the earth, and embroiders it with flowers. The banks became inviting through their coverlets of moss; the violets refreshed by the moisture of descending rains, enriched the tepid air with their agreeable perfumes. But the shower was past; the sun dispersed the vapours; and the sky was clear and lucid when Polydore walked forth. He was of a complexion altogether plain and unaffected; a lover of the Muses and beloved by them. He would often times retire from the noise of mixt conversation, to enjoy the melody of birds, or the murmurs of a water-fall. His neighbours often smiled at his peculiarity of temper; and he, no less, at the vulgar cast of theirs: he could never be content to pass his irrevocable time in an idle comment upon a newspaper, or in adjusting the precise difference of temperature betwixt the weather of to-day and yesterday. In short, he was not void of some ambition, but what he felt he acknowledged, and was never averse to vindicate. As he never censured any one who indulged their humour inoffensively, so he claimed no manner of applause for those pursuits which gratified his own. But the sentiments he entertained of honour, and the dignity conferred by royal authority, made it wonderful how he bore the thoughts of obscurity and oblivion. He mentioned, with applause, the youths who by merit had arrived at stations, but he thought that all should in life's visit leave some token of their existence, and that their friends might more reasonably expect it from them, than from their posterity.

Polydore, a new inhabitant, in a sort of wild uninhabited county, was now ascended to the top of a mountain, and in the full enjoyment of a very extensive prospect: before him a broad and winding valley, variegated with all the charms of landscape. Fertile meadows, glittering streams, pendant rocks, and nodding ruins. But these indeed were much less the objects of his attention, than those distant hills and spires that were almost concealed by one undistinguished azure. The sea appeared to close the scene, tho' distant as it was, it but little diversified

the view. Hardly, indeed, were it distinguishable but for the beams of a descending sun, which at the same time warned our traveller to return, before the darkness and dews of evening had rendered his walk uncomfortable.

He had now descended to the foot of the mountain, when he remarked an old hermit approaching to a little hut, which he had formed with his own hands, at the very bottom of the precipice. Polydore all enamoured with the beauties he had been surveying, could not avoid wondering at his conduct, who, not content with shunning all commerce with mankind, had contrived as much as possible to exclude all views of nature. He accosted him in the manner following. "Father, said he, it is with no small surprise, that I observe your choice of situation, by which you seem to neglect the most distant and delightful landscape that ever my eyes beheld. The hill beneath which you have contrived to hide your habitation, would have afforded you a variety of natural curiosities, that must have appeared to so contemplative a person, highly entertaining; and as the cell, to which you are advancing, is seemingly of your own contrivance, methinks it was probable you would have so placed it, as to present them, in all their beauty, to your eye."

The hermit made him this answer, "My son, the evening approaches, and you have deviated from your way. I would not, therefore, detain you by my story, did I not imagine the moon would prove a safer guide to you, than that setting sun you must otherwise rely upon. Enter awhile into my cave, and I will give you some account of my adventures, which will solve your doubts, perhaps, more effectually than any method I can propose. But before you enter my lone abode, calculated only for the use of meditation, dare to condemn superfluous magnificence, and render thyself worthy of the Being I contemplate.

"Know then that I owe, what the world is pleased to call, my ruin (and indeed justly, were it not for the use I have made of it) to an assured dependence, in a literal sense, upon confused and distant prospects; a consideration which hath so affected me, that I shall never, henceforth, enjoy a landscape that lies at so remote a distance as not to exhibit all its parts. Were I, indeed, to form the least pretensions, to what your world calls taste, I might even then, perhaps, con-

tend that a well discriminated landscape was at all times to be preferred to a distant and promiscuous azure.

“ I was born in the parish of a nobleman who arrived to the principal management of the business of the nation. The heir of his family and myself, were of the same age, and for some time school-fellows. I had made considerable advances in his esteem, and the mutual affection we entertained for each other, did not remain long unobserved by his family or my own. He was sent early upon his travels, pursuant to a very injudicious custom, and my parents were solicited to consent that I might accompany him. Intimations were given to my friends, that a person of such importance as his father might contribute much more to my immediate promotion, than the utmost diligence I could use in pursuit of it. My father, I remember, assented with reluctance; my mother, fired with the ambition of her son's future greatness, through much importunity, “ wrong from him his slow leave.” I, for my own part, wanted no great persuasion. We made, what is called, the greater tour of Europe. We, neither of us, I believe, could be said to want natural sense, but being banished so early in life, were more attentive to every deviation from our own indifferent customs, than to any useful examination of their policies or manners. Judgment, for the most part, ripens very slowly. Fancy often expands all her blossoms at once.

We were now returning home from a six years absence; anticipating the caresses of our parents and relations, when my ever-honoured companion was attacked by a fever—All possible means of safety proving finally ineffectual, he accosted me in one of his lucid intervals, as follows:

“ Alas! my Clytander! my life, they tell me, is of a very short continuance. The next paroxysm of my fever will, probably, be conclusive.

“ The prospect of this sudden change does not allow me to speak the gratitude I owe thee, much less to reward the kindness on which it is so justly grounded. Thou knowest I was sent away early from my parents, and the more rational part of my life has been passed with thee alone. It cannot be but they will prove solicitous in their enquiries concerning me. Thy narrative will awake their tenderness, and they cannot but conceive some for their son's companion and his

friend. What I would hope for is, that they will render thee some services, in place of those their beloved son intended for thee, and which I can, unfeignedly, assert, would have been only bounded by my power. My dear companion, farewell. All other temporal enjoyments have I banished from my heart; but friendship lingers long, and it is with tears I say—farewell.”

“ My concern was truly so great, that, upon my arrival in my native country, it was not at all increased by the consideration that the nobleman on whom all my hopes depended, was removed from all his places. I waited on him; and he appeared sensibly grieved that the friendship he had ever professed could now so little avail me. He recommended me, however, to a friend of his that was then of the successful party, and who, he was well assured, would, at his request, assist me to the utmost of his power. I was now in the prime of life, which I effectually consumed upon the empty forms of court attendance. Hopes arose before me like bubbles upon a stream, as quick succeeding one another, as superficial and as vain. Thus busied in my pursuit, and rejecting the assistance of cool examination, I found the winter of life approaching, and nothing procured to shelter or protect me, when my second patron died. A race of new ones appeared before me, and even yet kept my expectations in play. I wished, indeed, I had retracted sooner, but to retire, at last, unrecompensed, and when a few months attendance might happen to prove successful, was beyond all power of resolution.

“ However, after a few years more attendance, distributed in equal proportions, upon each of these new patrons, I, at length, obtained a place of much trouble, and small emolument. On the acceptance of this, my eyes seemed to open all at once, I had no passion remaining for the splendour which was grown familiar to me, and for servility and confinement I entertained an utter aversion. I officiated, however, a few weeks in my post, wondering still more and more how I could ever covet the life I led. I was ever most sincere, but sincerity clashed with my situation every moment of the day. In short, I returned home to a small paternal income, not indeed intending, that austere life in which you, at present, find me engaged: I thought to content myself with common necessaries, and to give the rest, if aught remained,

to charity, but to avoid all appearance of singularity. But, alas! to my great surprize, the person who supplied my expences had so far embroiled my little affairs, that, when my debts, &c. were discharged, I was unable to subsist in a better manner than I do at present. I grew, at first, entirely melancholy; left the country where I was born, and raised the humble roof that covers me in a country where I am not known. I now begin to think myself happy in my present way of life: I cultivate a few vegetables to support me, and the little well there is a very clear one. I am now an useless individual, little able to benefit mankind; but a prey to shame and to confusion, on the first glance of every eye that knows me. My spirits are indeed something raised by a clear sky, or a meridian sun, but as to extensive views of the country, I think them well enough exchanged for the warmth and comfort which this vale affords me. Ease is, at least, the proper ambition of age, and it is, confessedly, my supreme one.

"Yet will I not permit you to depart from an hermit without one instructive lesson. Whatever situation in life you ever wish or propose for yourself, acquire a clear and lucid idea of the inconveniences attending it. I utterly contemned and rejected, after a month's experience, the very post I had been all my life solicitous to procure."

SHENSTONE.

THYMANDER and SOBRINA;
or the TORTURES of JEALOUSY.

A FLORENTINE STORY.

A Petty Italian nobleman, who lived in a little village in the neighbourhood of Florence, had been happy many years in the possession of one of the fairest and most virtuous of her sex. He was a man of good natural parts, and had an high sense of virtue, with very strong passions, which the servile dependence of his vassals, and the authority he had been accustomed to exercise without controul, within his own small principality, conspired to heighten. His good sense was also clouded by an insufferable vanity; so that when he had got any whim, a prepossession into his head, it was next to impossible to cure him of it. He was exceedingly fond of his wife, nor did she fail to make returns with equal tender-

ness and delicacy: yet notwithstanding this, he began to entertain suspicions of her virtue. He would sometimes look at her with an ecstatic tenderness, and, after the most endearing caresses, turn from her with sullenness, as fancying she had received them coldly, or at least, not with that transport of passion he expected, or thought they deserved. Sometimes he would toss and roll about all alone in his bed, as he himself afterwards confessed, revolving her whole behaviour, putting the strangest construction on every word and action, and interpreting her most innocent smiles, which she scattered without thinking, on all his friends who came to his house, into designs of allurement or conquest. Thus would his thoughts boil, and his passions ferment into frenzy, and then would he start from his bed, and run about the room in a whirlwind of fury, with ghastly looks, and eyes rolling like a madman's.

He had, for some days and nights, continued in this uncomfortable state: one night, returning home pretty late, flustered with liquor, he found his doors shut; he knocked hard, but could not get entrance, which made him continue knocking without intermission. At length he was let in. As he was going up stairs, he found one slipping off by him, apparently afraid of being discovered. It struck him immediately that this was his wife's gallant; he called aloud several times for light, hoping to make some discovery, but as it was a pretty while before they were brought, the stranger had time to make his escape. This confirmed Thymander's suspicions, and made him dart like lightning into his wife's apartment. She seemed to be, and really was, much surpris'd at the noise that was made, and the unusual disorder and fury in which her husband appeared. Without hesitating a moment, Thymander pulled her out of the bed upon the floor, and, as if her guilt had been certain and notorious, poured forth a storm of reproaches, accompanied with a volley of oaths and menaces. The composure of Sobrina's appearance and behaviour, joined to the most solemn protestations of her innocence, made no impression on her frantic husband. Equally unmoved with her tears and soothing language, he hauled her about, beat her unmercifully, and then left her for dead. Being returned to his own apartment, he ran up and down like one distracted, tore his hair, beat his breast, foamed at the

mouth, roared aloud as if he had been on the rack, blasphemed against heaven, cursed his wife as one of the most abandoned, and himself as one of the unhappiest wretches that ever lived. In this manner Thylander passed the night. The next day the same dreadful scene was in some degree acted over again. After various black designs, and a thousand convulsions of thought, his mind fixed at length upon a terrible way of being assured of Sobrina's guilt.

There was a young gentleman of Florence, of a good family, but small fortune, who came to the country for the benefit of the air, and used, sometimes, to visit in the family. As he had an agreeable person, and was very soft and engaging in his manners, Thylander suspected from these, and other trifling circumstances, that he was the person who carried on the supposed correspondence. To him, therefore, he commanded Sobrina to write a letter, which he dictated himself, in an obliging strain, inviting him to a private interview. He ordered her also, to entertain Timocles with great frankness and civility, and to make him an offer of what money he might have occasion for, while he continued in the country. At the same time he drew a poignard, made her feel the point of it, and told her that he was resolved to be a witness of their interview behind the arras; and, if from their behaviour, he could discover the smallest symptoms of guilt, he would send them both to the infernal regions, as the just reward of their execrable crimes. Sobrina told her unhappy husband, with a noble assurance, that having appealed to heaven for the vindication of her innocence, she willingly left her cause to their common judge, and would rest its decision upon the issue he proposed.

The letter was sent, and between that and the time of the assignation, Thylander took care that no other message from his wife should reach Timocles, to put him on his guard. At length, the awful hour of trial came; Thylander took his station, and, there through an hole in the arras, observed what passed between Timocles and his wife, we may believe, with dreadful suspence. Sobrina, putting on a smiling air, received Timocles with an easy frankness, desired him to sit down, and asked him wherein she could serve him during his stay in that place. Timocles thanked her in a handsome manner, but said he did not know

any thing in which he should need to trouble her while he staid in the country. Sobrina still insisted, that if he had any occasion for money or bills, while he continued in the neighbourhood, he might freely command her. Timocles seemed a good deal surpris'd and out of countenance, at such unexpected frankness and generosity; yet behaved with great distance and shew of respect, acknowledged her kind offers in very obliging terms, which if he had occasion for, he would gratefully accept, but had no prospect at that time of giving her any trouble. Then, rising up, he took his leave in the most respectful manner, without a single word or look, which could fix any suspicion of the least previous criminal intimacy. Sobrina behaved all along with an amazing composure, or rather a kind of serene majesty, in which there was nothing fearful or forward, forbidding or inviting, being supported by a full consciousness of her own innocence, and an entire resignation to the will of heaven. When Timocles was gone, the husband came forth from his lurking-place, and confessed, that hitherto indeed he had discovered nothing which could fix guilt upon her, but that he must make a farther trial of her before he could admit her to his former confidence and love.

While things were in this critical way, Sobrina, who could not bear that the affair should continue in so fluctuating and doubtful a state, sent for a priest, who belonged to a neighbouring convent, and used sometimes to visit her husband, an old man of a venerable character, celebrated for his wisdom and sanctity; to him she communicated the whole unfortunate story, and begged his best advice. The pious father desired her to open the whole affair to him in her husband's presence, to which she readily consented. Both parties told the story before him, each in their own way. Thylander, with the utmost disorder and distraction in his looks and language, exaggerated every circumstance, frequently interrupted his wife, and could not forbear venting himself in language not fit to be used before one of such a character. Sobrina told her part of the story with a simplicity, which no art could imitate, and with an intrepidity which nothing but innocence could inspire; looked her husband full in the face, with a steadiness and assurance that bespoke a mind at once conscious of its

own purity, and sensible of the high injury done her. Her language was smooth and unbroken, her whole account clear and coherent. At the same time, her spirit was wound up to such a pitch of fervour and enthusiasm, that she seemed raised above herself, and the weakness of her sex. There were no tears, no sighs, no womanish complaints, not even expostulations. Her accent, manner, and behaviour were indeed vehement and pathetic, but all equal, uniform, and sustained by the very spirit and flame of virtue.

The honest ecclesiastic was exceedingly moved at so interesting a scene; he chose, however, to say but little at that time, the little he did say was chiefly addressed to Thymander; he spoke particularly to his passions of love and shame; both which he endeavoured to awaken, by appealing to his good sense and candour, whether a woman, who had all along maintained such a character, and who had spoke, acted, and behaved in the manner she did, in so severe a trial as he had made her pass through, could possibly give just ground for so many unworthy suspicions, or had deserved such unworthy usage.

Thymander replied, that the greatest offenders are generally the most notorious dissemblers;—that his own conduct had been God-like—(these were his very words;)—that he had been soon indeed upon the rack, but had triumphed in the midst of his tortures, and had maintained all the dignity of virtue, in a conjuncture, that would have tried and shaken the strength of an angel. “Before the father took leave, he advised Sobrina, in private, to continue in the same calm, gentle, and condescending temper, which she had hitherto possessed;—to forbear all kind of expostulations with her husband;—to try all the soft insinuating ways she could think of, to compose his spirit, and unravel his suspicions, when she saw him in a cooler mood;—and to bend her utmost efforts to revive that tender passion which he once entertained for her; and he did not doubt but she would effectually supplant his jealousy; and, with the assistance of heaven, make a second conquest more firm and lasting than the first.”

Sobrina faithfully followed the father's advice, and took every opportunity of soothing him into kindness and good-humour. Meantime, one day, while they were together, the same priest came in, and told Thymander he was just come

from confessing a poor woman who had lately served in their family, and was then on her death bed: she had confessed, that she had been the unhappy cause of Thymander's jealousy, and that her gallant was the person whom he suspected of carrying on a correspondence with his wife, and who had so narrowly escaped being discovered by him. As a proof of this, he delivered a letter to him, attesting those facts, and signed by the woman herself. When the priest was gone, Thymander seemed much easier than he had been for some time past. Sobrina, thinking him now more sensible to gentle impressions, seized the critical minute, fell down on her knees before him, and plied him with those alluring airs, and that alluring language, which the sex, when they have a mind to it, know how to employ with irresistible persuasion, and, at length, so thoroughly melted him, that he caught her in his arms, with the strongest ardor of passion, and cried out, “My dear Sobrina, you have conquered me; * I have wronged, cruelly wronged, the best and most valuable woman that lives. I accuse and condemn myself more bitterly, ten thousand times, than you or the whole world can possibly do. If you can forgive such, and so aggravated an injury, yet I cannot forgive myself, I shall reckon the remainder of my life too short to make atonement for my guilt and folly; and to recompense your incomparable virtue.”

A curious SPANISH ANECDOTE.

From a Tour in Spain, in the Year 1755.

HAughtiness is a vice which prevails in Spain among the lowest people, and even among the beggars. A stranger should, therefore, be liberal of the words, Senor and Senora, Don and Donna. I was once so punished for my inadvertence in this respect, that I resolved to be profuse of them for the future, and to bestow them on muleteers and scullions.

I was amusing myself, one day, with looking over a book in a bookseller's shop, when a beggar came and asked me to give him something, but in such a manner, that he seemed to demand what

* Truth and virtue have conquered me.

was his due, rather than to beg for charity. At first, I pretended not to see him, and went on reading. He grew more importunate from my silence, and said, I might read at my leisure, and that I then ought to attend to what he said to me. As I continued not to regard him, he approached me with an insolent air, and said, "Either answer, or give me something." Seeing I did not attend to his clamours, he took me by the arm—"You have neither charity nor good manners." I then lost my patience, and turned towards him to reprove his effrontery. The impudent fellow stopped me, and said, in a grave and softened tone, gently, "Pardon me, Sir, you do not know me?" I told him, I did not. "We have, however," replied he, "lived in the same capital, where I was secretary to an embassy." He then told me his name, and his country, which was a province in Spain.

THE O B S E R V E R.

[NUMBER XCVI.]

To the OBSERVER.

S I R,

THERE is a disorder, complaint, disease, weakness, frailty, misfortune, or whatever you may please to call it, that often makes a man ridiculous in company, though at other times he may be extremely agreeable, and uncommonly entertaining. The defect I allude to, is a total absence in company, an entire inattention to all that is said, and an incapability of replying to any question that is proposed. A man thus absorbed in thought is a dead weight in society, and is of less value in conversation than ballast in a ship. His presence becomes irksome, because he seems to treat all around him with a kind of supercilious contempt; whilst he himself, probably, receives the greatest mortification from being incapable of getting rid of a stupor that seizes him, in despite of all his efforts to disengage himself from it. This kind of apathy, if nipt in the bud, seldom grows to any height; but if cherished by a reclusive life, intense and deep study, added, perhaps, to a natural melancholy or dejection of spirits, may become of such a magnitude, and so burthensome, as to be entirely insupportable either by the person who labours under it, or the

company in which he may occasionally gain admission.

Such an unhappy man is an object of pity; but what shall we say of those combs in dullness and inattention, who affect a total absence upon most occasions, in order to be thought eccentric geniuses, great poets, and profound philosophers! They merit contempt and ridicule.

In this opinion I shall introduce Andrew Abstract. His whole life, if you will believe him, has been devoted to discover the longitude, and make himself a complete master of the philosopher's stone. Meet him in the street—his eyes are fixed upon the ground, and, at every six or seven paces, he stops short, and mutters something to himself, which no passenger can understand. If he meets with a bookseller's stall in his perambulation, he runs over the catalogue, and purchases every book or pamphlet that relates to the longitude, or the universal panacea. When in company he is in one constant reverie; and should any one pull him by the sleeve, he appears greatly disconcerted, and declares he was interrupted in one of the happiest moments of his life, and that he had, at that very instant, been within a hair's breadth of attaining the summit of his wishes, and that it would not have been in the power of fate to have frustrated his expectations, unless the crucible had tumbled over. We shall not, therefore, any longer interrupt Andrew Abstract, lest he may be in one of these happy reveries, and upon the very brink of perfect felicity. Besides, after he has amply made his fortune, by converting all his pots and kettles into gold, he may, out of pure charity for our indulgence, leave us his *caput mortuum*, to make what we can of it.

Sam Stanza, who, in his own opinion, is one of the greatest poets living, is an annual critic upon the New Year's Ode, and every other poetical production that makes its appearance, has not sufficiently established his poetical reputation by his genius and his works, which he publishes by nominal subscription upon his own account, for reasons that are self-evident to every printer and publisher in town; he, therefore, has recourse to stratagem, and as it is universally allowed that *absence* is one great criterion of genius, he is incessantly *absent*, let him be where he will. But not content with this *local non-existence*, he thinks it necessary, occasionally,

ally, to display it more visibly to the world: he will accordingly sally forth sometimes with stockings of opposite colours, such as black and white; often forgets his hat and wig, though in a hard frost; and the other morning he came to the coffee-house without his breeches. It is true, Stanza had a long surtout on, and did not expose himself in the street; and it was generally believed, he came to the coffee-house without breeches to avoid exposing his poverty, as it was an apology for his not paying his breakfast.

Peter Profound is, perhaps, one or other, the greatest politician in Europe: no man understands the interests of princes, the intrigues of courts, the cabals of cabinets, or the views of parties, better than Peter. He is, indeed, a second Machiavel; and, as to *finance*, he beats lord North quite hollow. Peter has but one fault, but one misfortune, or rather too conspicuous a virtue; which is, that he is so absent to his own concerns, that whilst he is totally immersed in pursuits for the good of the nation, he entirely forgets his own interests and connexions. As an instance of this the other evening, when he was calculating the most abstract piece of arithmetic, not without the assistance of algebra, to prove in how many years this country might liquidate all her debts, and just as he had come to the quotient, and settled the whole to the satisfaction of every one present, an impertinent intruder, in the person of a catchpole, interfered in his account, and assured him the most material part of it he had forgot to settle, which was his rent. The consequence was, though Mr. Profound had just paid off about two hundred millions without the least difficulty, he was hurried away to a spunging-house for a few pounds.

Among this group of absentees, tho' neither Irish peers or pensioners, we cannot refrain introducing a celebrated female historian. This lady, when she resided at Bath, and was extremely absorbed in her lucubrations, was induced one evening to relax from her studies, and appear at the Rooms, and a *very uncommon* appearance she made there—for by a strange absence, even at her toilet, where women seldom forget themselves, or the improvement of their beauty, she absolutely forgot to embellish and illustrate one side of her face, and in this Janus-like manner she received the compliments and condolence of her friends; one part of them congratulating her upon her

healthy and blooming look, the other lamenting she seemed so wan and pale, which they ascribed to her indefatigable application to study, and which they accordingly strenuously recommended to her to relax from—“but, said the historian, in a truly heroic cadence, what signifies how a woman's face looks—when I have just left the head of a monarch upon the block, upon the point of decapitation.”

If, Sir, you think these observations and sketches worthy a place in your much admired Observer, I shall occasionally transmit you my thoughts and remarks, as they may flow spontaneously upon different subjects.

I am your constant reader, &c.

ANTI-ABSENTEE.

☞ The Observer will always be happy to recognize this gentleman's hand, and his favours will have proper attention paid to them.

The DELINEATOR.

NUMBER XXVII.

AS matrimony is always an interesting subject, either at the beginning, or at the end of a year, I think it needless to make any apology for the following letter just received from a married man, and, consequently, from a knowing one in conjugal matters.

To the DELINEATOR.

SIR,

I AM insensibly led to open my heart to you upon a subject, which, as I feel myself deeply interested in it, will not, I hope, be deemed undeserving of your serious attention.

You are not, I am sure, Sir, to be told, whether you are a bachelor or a married man, that matrimony and felicity are, by no means, synonymous terms. I am married, and I am unhappy; and I will not intrude upon your time, for the tale would be long, by acquainting you with my nuptial history, at large, from the day I commenced a husband to this present hour; a few sketches of it, indeed, will be sufficient to convince you, I think, that I have reason to complain of my matrimonial,

rimonial lot, and to wish, devoutly, for the restoration of that peace of mind which I enjoyed before I put myself into "circumscription and confine."

When I tell you that "my wife is fair, is free of speech, loves company, sings, plays, and dances well," you will not, perhaps, suppose, that she is, in consequence of her beauty, conversation, social propensities, and elegant accomplishments, the occasion of all the disquietude which I, at present, endure; that she excludes peace from my pillow, and tranquillity from my soul. Yet so it is; conscious of her personal charms, she exerts all her Cytherian powers to set them off to the greatest advantage, to place them in the most attractive point of view: and where is the beauty who ever studied the embellishments of her person, without admitting the idea of a public exhibition of it, in its full force, and flattering herself, at the same time, with the admiration which the wide display of it would excite? "That a married woman, beautiful, accomplished, made to engage all hearts, and to charm all eyes," may not be a good wife, and pay a laudable attention to her domestic duties, I will not absolutely deny; but I am very sure that such a woman is exposed to a number of temptations, of an alarming nature, to the man who is linked to her for life. Every woman, I grant, is not deluded from the golden line of virtue, by the same temptation; but I believe that which has proved destructive of my connubial happiness, has given rise to more deviations from conjugal chastity, than any which the most artful seducer ever spread for the gratification of his irregular wishes and desires. When I name the stage, Sir, you will, I dare say, give me credit for all I have said with regard to the dangers to which women are exposed, in consequence of their ambition to be generally, universally, admired by men. It is painful to a man of sensibility, a man who has nothing of the stock-fish in his disposition—to feel that he cannot call the delicate creature whom he doats on to distraction, his own: to be certain, though not with "ocular proofs," that she confers those favours on others to which he alone has an indisputable right; to be treated by her with a cordial contempt; and to be obliged, from the nature of his connection, to support her in the enjoyment of pleasures in which he has no share—"Why did I marry?"

I have named the stage: I must repeat it; because I must attribute all the misery with which I am at present tormented to Mrs. Racket's becoming acquainted with some ladies strongly addicted to the theatrical passion, and from the violent operation of some late theatrical exhibitions, doubly stimulated to throw off at once their petticoats and their pudicity. I am not empowered to say, that Mrs. Racket has made her appearance on any public stage, but I have all the reason in the world to imagine, that she will, in a few months, face a full house with as little concern, as she turns her back upon her fond (I shall not be surprised at your adding foolish) husband.

RICHARD RACKET.

The perusal of the above letter must fill every married man who has a wife of Mrs. Racket's disposition, and who wishes to "keep her to himself alone," with alarming apprehensions, which not even the celebrated "quieting draught," highly efficacious upon many occasions, will banish from his foreboding mind. To speak my sentiments freely with regard to my correspondent's conjugal complaints, I cannot help looking upon him as a husband in a desperate state; and do not believe that it is in the power of poppy or mandragoras, to procure the restoration of that peace, by the loss of which he is so strongly (I am sorry to add, to no purpose) affected. Mr. Racket seems to be very much alarmed at the thoughts of his wife appearing before the curtain, upon any of our theatres; but I must own, were I in his situation, I should be much more terrified by the idea of what might be produced, by a treaty of love, with unlimited candidates behind it.

Having complied with Mr. Racket's request by the publication of his letter, evidently written with the pen of disquietude, I shall start another of my correspondents, who has a fair claim to the Delineator's attention, as he is, undoubtedly, a character—in the true dramatic sense of that fashionable word.

To the DELINEATOR.

S I R,

IF you have no objection to an irregular correspondent, I am your man; I can suit you to a hair: or, as a friend of mine more happily expresses it, to a criticism; for I am, perhaps, the most irregular fel-

low

low in the three kingdoms, in my literary pursuits: it was ever my dear delight to sport in the walks of literature; but I never could in my life stick to any particular art or science: I was ever distinguished, from a boy, for my desultory mode of thinking and reading, and am still, though hastening to my grand climacteric, as much addicted to literary rambling, as I was before the first hairs of virility sprouted on my chin. Now, Sir, after this preamble, what will you expect? not a regular essay, I trust. No—certainly: but unconnected Thoughts on various Subjects. You are right: Ramble is my name, and a Rambler I shall be to the end of my life: but no more of that, as Lear says—I will make haste to introduce some of my loose thoughts, (no punning, I beseech you) and if they will, in any shape, contribute to throw a variety into your monthly Numbers, and variety has frequently attractions, without laying claim to any beauties, you may depend upon hearing, occasionally, from

Your very humble servant,

RODERICK RAMBLE.

Unconnected Thoughts on various Subjects.

POPE exposes the authors who provoked him, without moderation, without mercy: I often think, however, while I am reading his Dunciad, that he throws away a great deal of bright, poetical fire, in many pages, upon men who deserve not to be distinguished by him, and satirizes, in other parts of his work, some very inoffensive mortals, with too great a portion of poetical acrimony. Pope, with all his Parnassian merit, was certainly one of the *genus irritabile vatum*, and very susceptible of affronts. "Jealous of honour, sudden and quick in quarrels," he was easily stimulated to display those talents to the exertion of which, though we cannot always approve of his resentment, we are indebted for the keenest strokes in his poetical exhibitions, or rather executions. Every man who offended him "at some unlucky time," was sure of being tucked up in a stinging satire, and exposed to the broad stare of the public, in the most ludicrous point of view; yet among the number of those who smarted under the strokes of his irritated pen, it is probable, that the persons laughed at for their follies, were more pained than those who were lashed for

their crimes; there are men who glory in their villanies, but nobody can bear the idea of being posted for a fool; so much more patiently borne are imputations on the heart, than reflections on the head.

THAT the *auri sacra fames* operates very strongly upon a considerable part of the human species, the experience of every day convinces us, with such potency of proof, that it is impossible for us not to see its effects upon the human constitution. To that greedy desire what a train of private miseries, what a catalogue of public calamities, may be attributed! Seized with the rage for gold, men forget, shamefully forget, the duties they owe to God, and to their fellow creatures, and thinking only of themselves, unhappily become fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils, and often act in a manner so detrimental to the welfare of society, that we are forcibly urged to exclaim, "Let no such men be trusted."

THE following lines are produced by lord Kaimis as specimens of resemblance between the sound and significance of certain words:

Loud sounds the ax, redoubling strokes on
strokes,
On all sides round the forest hurls her oaks,
Headlong. Deep echoing groan the thickets
brown,
Then rushing, cracking, crashing, thunder
down,

POPE'S *Homer*.

If the translator had stopped at the word *headlong*, the force of imitation would have been sufficiently felt: the remaining words are, indeed, expressive, but *groan* and *brown* seem too close together, to have a happy effect on the ear; and the last line borders, perhaps, on the burlesque.

ROUSSEAU, in his bold, peremptory style, tells us that physic, though it may be useful to some particular persons, is destructive to the human race in general. In the present state of society such an affirmation as this is a mere *verbum dictum*; it amounts to nothing. If nobody, in any part of the world was permitted to take physic, in some shape or other, (every thing that is administered for the restoration of health may be called so) death would soon thin the land; wherever he shakes his dart, we should not want armies and navies to send the human race to their eternal homes.

As the affairs of the East India Company have, for some time, ingrossed the chief attention of the public, and are under the inspection of a secret committee of the House of Commons, and the Carnatic war makes one of the principal objects of this enquiry, we think our readers will be pleased with our entering, in this Number, upon the History of Indostan, and particularly the Carnatic, which will include the rise and progress of the present war, point out its causes, with the merits and demerits of the company's servants in Asia, which have, in a great measure, occasioned all the troubles that lately brought the Company's affairs to so alarming a crisis.

MANY years before the time of Tamerlane, Mahomedan princes had made inroads, conquests, and establishments in India. Valid, the 6th of the kalifs, named Ommiades, who mounted the throne in the year 708 of our æra, and in the 9th of the hegira, made incursions, and seized upon different parts in India, whence we may conclude that the Alcoran was introduced at a very early date into that country. Mahmoud, son of Sebegtechin, prince of Gazna, the capital of a province, separated by mountains from the north-west part of India, and situated near Kandahar, carried at the same time the sword and the Alcoran, about the year 1000 of our æra. He maintained himself in a great extent of territory, in as well as out of India, as it is said he increased his conquests as far to the south as the present capital of Visiapore, near Goa. The Indians were treated by him with all the rigour of a conqueror, and all the furious zeal of a converter; pillaging and plundering the inhabitants, razing temples, and putting to the sword those whom he considered as idolaters. The biographers, who have written his life, seem to have greatly exaggerated the amazing treasures he found in Indostan; and even wandered so far in the marvellous, as to talk of trees that grew out of the ground of pure gold. This, perhaps, may be taken figuratively; but still it conveys an idea of the riches of that country beyond any thing ever since suggested.

Mahmoud's successes were called, from the capital of their dominions, the Dynasty of the Gaznavides, who supported themselves in a great part of the country which he had conquered in India, until

about the year 1155, when Kosreu Schah the Third, and last prince of Gazna, of that race, was deposed by Hussain Gauri, which name he derived from the country where he was born, Gaur, a province situated to the north of Gazna. He founded the Dynasty of the Gaurides, which produced five princes, who possessed in and out of India almost the same dominions as their predecessors the Gaznavides, and like them took Gazna for their capital.

Scheabbedin, the fourth emperor of the Gaurides, during the life of his brother and predecessor Gaiatheddin, subjugated the kingdoms of Multan and Delhi. He drew such amazing treasures from India, that one of his daughters inquiring of the officer who superintended them, what was their value, he replied, that the diamonds only weighed three thousand pounds, whereby she might form a judgment of the rest. Making allowances for Oriental exaggeration, we may still collect from this circumstance, that he had amassed uncommon wealth by his conquests in India. An exasperated Indian, become desperate by the insults and outrages to which he saw his gods and temples violated, took a vow that Scheabbedin should fall by his hand, and accordingly slew him.

The race of Gaurides became extinct in the year 1212, by the death of Mahmoud, nephew and successor to Scheabbedin. Mahmoud, like his uncle, was assassinated, though for a different cause. Mahmoud's chief possessions, as well as influence, were out of India, for even in Gazna itself he appears to have had but little interest; but it should be observed, that this was not the place of his residence, nor the capital of sovereignty. His uncle, Scheabbedin, who had no issue, tho' he was fond of children, and adopted many, proposed dismembering the Indian provinces from the empire of Gazna, by giving the government of two of them to two of his slaves. Nasfereddin received at his hands the countries of Multan, Cothbeddin-Ibeck, and those of Delhi. Tageddin Ildiz, another of his slaves, was appointed to the government of Gazna.

About the year 1214 Mohamed, sixth sultan of the Dynasty of the Knowarasmians, whose dominions lay contiguous to those of the Gaurides, took Gazna from the slave who had succeeded his predecessor Tageddin-Ildiz in that government. Notwithstanding he subjugated the capital

of their empire, it does not appear that he established himself in the Indian dominions of the Gaurides. He incautiously came to a rupture with Gingischan, and in the year 1218, was compelled to give way to the arms of that conqueror; and, about two years after, he died a fugitive far distant from Asia.

Mohamed's son, the gallant Gelaladdin opposed Gingischan in the province of Gazna, but was totally defeated by the latter in person, and escaped with his life, by swimming over a river with a fortitude that excited even Gingischan's admiration. He continued in Multan till the year 1224, when he left India with the design of never more returning into it. He was slain in Mesopotamia in 1231.

We have given this short sketch of the conquests and fate of the first invaders of India, not designing to pursue this remote part of the history of that country with any regular chronological accuracy, as we only mean it as introductory to the state of it in modern times. However, we cannot pass over the following remarks, as they tend to illustrate the present state of Indostan, as well as all India, which is generally understood to comprehend all the countries and empires which lie south of Tartary, extending from the eastern frontiers of Persia, to the eastern coasts of China. The islands of Japan are also included under this name, as well as the Malay islands, in which the Dutch have very valuable possessions, and which reach southerly to the coasts of New Holland, and towards the east to Terra Incognita. Nevertheless, the name of India can only with propriety be applied to that country, which in Asia, as well as Europe, is distinguished by the name of Indostan.

The more northern inhabitants were easily persuaded to embrace Mahomedism, and are now the Afghans or Pitans, who have lately made so great a figure in all the revolutions of Delhi. These are the people who have formed a mighty nation in India, whom the Europeans call Moors; their numbers fall little short of ten millions, who all profess the Mahomedan religion: to them, under the authority of the Great Mogul, the greatest part of Indostan is now subject; but, notwithstanding they are the reigning nation, they are outnumbered by the Indians in the proportion of ten to one. To this inferiority of numbers may be ascribed the reason why the Mahomedans leave in

all parts of Indostan, several Indian princes in possession of their respective sovereignties, which they are permitted to govern without molestation, on condition that they pay a stipulated tribute, and do not infringe on any part of the treaties, by which the Grand Mogul has been and is acknowledged. These Indian princes are styled-rajahs, or kings. Above one half of the empire is at this time subject to them. Some of them are princes of very small territories, whilst others possess dominions nearly as large as those of the king of Prussia.

It is said there are no written laws among the Indians, but that a few maxims, handed down traditionally, supply the place of such a code in civil causes; and that ancient practice is subservient, in particular instances, to the penetration of the judges, and is without appeal even in criminal cases. Those cases which are derived from the relations of blood, the Indians usually decide with great integrity; but where property is concerned, without the affinity of blood, being a cunning subtle people, litigation prevails much amongst them; and for want of proper statutes, the caprice or partiality of the judges often determines their fate. In many cases arbitrators are preferred to the determination of judges—but even in this case partiality and prejudice too frequently prevail.

The Alcoran is to the Mahomedans, not only the source of their religious institutions, but of their civil law, as well as the administration of justice in criminal cases. The mulla in Indostan superintends the practice, and punishes the breach of religious duties; the cadi holds courts, in which are decided all disputes of property, and the catwal is at once the judge and executor of justice in criminal cases. In those parts of Indostan which are frequented by the Europeans, the customs or laws relative to lands, are subject to many difficulties and contradictions. A husbandman who possesses a few fields is entitled to sell or bequeath them; whilst the districts which contain these fields, is annually let out by government, to a renter, who pays a stipulated sum to the lord of the country, and receives from the cultivator a certain share of his harvests. Quarrels frequently arise between the renter and the husbandman, and the former often dispossesses the latter of his lands: clamours against the greatest violation of justice immediately ensue, whereupon the prince usually interferes,

and in most cases (unless some flagrant accusations are supported) redresses the husbandman; if upon a proof of the poor man's innocence, the prince fails to grant redress, he is highly execrated by almost all ranks of people.

The Great Mogul styles himself proprietor of all the lands in every country absolutely subjected, and grants portions of them as he pleases to his feudatories for life; but nevertheless the cultivator retains the right of sale and bequest. The chief policy of all the Indian governments of Indostan, as well as that pursued by the Great Mogul, consists more in an incessant attention to prevent any single family from obtaining great possessions, than in an attention of increasing oppressions upon the body of the people. Such a species of tyranny would tarnish the monarch's glory, and soon leave him but few subjects to command. The man ambitious of increasing his possessions, instead of compassing his design, as the necessary certificate to make good his title to his new acquisitions must pass through many hands, would most probably only make himself obnoxious to the people, who might judge him a proper victim to be sacrificed to state policy. It may, indeed, be remarked in the history of this and other Eastern countries, that notwithstanding the violence committed amongst the great, men of more humble condition are liable to still greater violences; and consequently an external humility is not only the best protection, but of course the soundest policy.

The Great Mogul is acknowledged the heir of every feudatory, who accepts of a certain title and a pension in that capacity. No one from the vizir to the lowest rank of feudatories, can have any trust of importance reposed in him but upon these conditions, and on his demise, his whole property is seized for the use of the emperor, who restores what part he pleases to the family of the deceased. The estates of all who are not feudatories lineally descend, according to succession. These checks and barriers were absolutely requisite in a state where great trusts were necessarily reposed in the hands of individuals, to prevent the aggrandizement of particular families.

Indostan is not divided into more than twenty-four provinces, each of which contains several Indian principalities. A numerous army, ready to be put in motion upon a short notice, was judged expedient to coerce the rajas; as the same force, divided under different generals, would not have proved effectual.

The nabob, whose title is now so often mentioned in Europe, is an officer, and was made subject to the controul of others who resided in the province with him, and over whom he had no authority. The power of life and death was reserved to the sovereign; civil cases were the department of the cadi; and the revenues and expences of the provinces were inspected by the duan, who regulated the customs, and in the name of the emperor took possession of the forfeited estates of the deceased feudatories. The government of the strongest holds in the province, was invested in persons who were in no respect subject to the nabob. He was called to court, kept there, or appointed to another government, whenever these changes were judged expedient by the ministry; and at one time they were so frequent, that a new nabob left Delhi riding backwards upon an elephant, assigning as a reason, "that he was looking out for his successor."

The nabobs of distant provinces had opportunities of acquiring stability in their governments, from the divisions of the royal family; and the court was now satisfied with receiving a stipulated sum from him, in lieu of the real revenues raised in the province, whereby the nabob became almost absolute in his province, and could entertain no apprehensions of having his power diminished but by the arrival of an army from Delhi, which seldom or never appeared. Previous to this æra of independence, they exercised cruel caprices, and despotic rigor, on those unhappy individuals who were incapable of making their complaints reach the throne. There is a story told of a nabob, who beheaded a set of handsome dancing girls, because they did not attend him on his first summons. According to another historian, a man who murdered his wife, four children, and thirteen slaves, escaped punishment, because he was a kind of empiric to the nabob. Many other instances are given of similar cruelties.

It has been remarked, that all the Mahomedans who have settled in India acquire, in about the third generation, the indolence and pusillanimity of the aborigines, and at the same time a ferocity and barbarity of disposition, from which the Indians are now fortunately estranged. From this circumstance we are inclined to believe, that the prohibition of shedding blood of any kind, which constituted part of the Indian religion, was founded

in policy, and judiciously calculated to promote more gentle manners than the sanguinary disposition which is generally ascribed to the inhabitants of Indostan, before they became profelytes to the religion of Brama.

Indostan is situated as follows: That part of the western side of it which is not bounded by the sea, is separated from Persia and the Usbeg Tartary by desarts, and by those mountains which were known to the ancients by the name of Paropamisus; Mount Caucasus forms its barrier to the north, separating it from different nations of Tartars, from the Great and Little Thibet. From Mount Caucasus to Chitigan, marshes and rivers divide it from the kingdoms of Tepra, Assam, and Aracan. The sea from Chitigan to Cape Comorin, and from hence to Persia, embrace the rest of Indostan.

(To be continued.)

POLITICAL STRICTURES.

WHEN a state begins to taste the fruits of peace, reason and compassion require that we should gradually pay off the debts which have been incurred, and the taxes which have been laid on that account. No wise man can call in question my proposition; and yet we seldom act upon it.—There have been persons, indeed, who have maintained, that if a national debt be not necessary, it is useful to the public itself, because it creates a fund, which serves the convenience of thousands. This question has been much discussed in England lately, (1773.) The national debt amounted to forty millions sterling. The partizans of this fund alledge in its favour, that it gives an income to widows, minors, &c. who could not employ their money in commerce, or have resource to a profession for a maintenance; and that to cut off this resource would be a great injury to this part of the community. By means of a bank the money of the public is circulated, and the people are encouraged to assist the public necessity. If the debt were discharged, some other expedient for these purposes must be tried, which instead of bringing relief to the people, would probably fatigue and burthen them more. I am persuaded that those who are for a bank, under a pretence of its being a source of great convenience to a part of

the nation, may have other plausible reasons to support their opinion; but my business is with those who are opposed to an attempt to relieve the state; for a nation in debt should be considered as a person in sickness. It is not from a man who regards only his own interest, that we are to expect fair and proper counsel.—Now, who are those who would render our funds eternal, and who are warm against any proposal for discharging them? They are those who are creditors in large sums to the state, and who draw great advantages from well established funds, where their capital is secure and their income certain. They may have less profit than in trade; but they have less trouble and less risque; they would not, therefore, wish to forego so great a convenience. It is not necessary to exhibit the advantages which here arise to poor families and poor widows, the principal creditors of the state are the rich and opulent. When they speak in favour of the poor, they mean it for themselves, and their compassion is the masque of their selfishness. But there is a reason which cannot easily be disputed for discharging public debts. Let us suppose that the public is composed of a hundred thousand persons; and that out of that number three or four thousand are creditors; while the debt remains, ninety-six thousand persons labour, and as it were withhold the bread from their own mouths to furnish a certain revenue to those who have lent money to the state, and who, for the most part, are in easy circumstances. Need we any more to conclude that all the laws of justice and of charity plead for the relief of the people, as far as it can be effected, and that the public conduct is not to be regulated by those small numbers in a community who are interested in its misfortunes.

MURATORI.

On the ATHANASIAN CREED.

THE importance of religious opinions is to be measured by the different degrees in which they serve to the uses of piety and virtue. These are the end, or rather the substance of religion. If any man finds in himself the love of God and goodness promoted by his believing those mysteries in the Athanasian form, it is of happy importance to him. Reverence his belief. But, if receiving its doctrines

in the plainest and most general form we find in the work of our redemption enough to excite the highest love of God and our Redeemer, and to exhaust all our gratitude to the divine goodness, every end of faith seems to be answered. Whatever beyond this may be added to our faith, nothing can be added to our piety; and, therefore, whatever more is believed seems of little importance in a religious view.—When I am taught that God is eternal and almighty, a Being without beginning, and that can never have an end, that he is the father of the creation, and at the head of all worlds, my heart sinks within me, at the thought of a Being so tremendously great. When I am told that this gracious power interests himself in my happiness, and hath made me to contemplate his glory, and to adore him for ever, it dilates with joy and hope at the thought of a blessed immortality. When I learn farther, that God hath sent his son into the world, to unfold these great truths in all their lights, to redeem men when lost in sin and error, and to recall them to the knowledge of himself and their duty; to give them a law pure and perfect like himself, and adapted in every article to purify and exalt our nature, and armed with such sanctions as effect our well being for ever; when I see this law tempered with mercy and goodness in condescension to the merits of our Redeemer, and reflect on his humiliation, the degradation to which he submitted, by taking our nature upon him, and the sufferings he underwent for our sakes; I find every passion of hope, fear, and love, directed to objects worthy of an immortal spirit, every thought subdued, and brought to obedience by a faith so rational and interesting, so important in its objects, and in all its consequences, that nothing seems possible to be added which can give it more influence on my mind.

Observations on RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENTS.

HUMAN establishments will ever have the marks of human weakness upon them.—In a course of years the christian religion itself, though of divine authority, became so corrupted as to want to be restored to its first principles. This reformation was happily attempted, but was left imperfect. Its imperfections are too visible to be palliated, and are now uni-

versally acknowledged.—In the present advanced state of learning and knowledge every thing must submit to the test of close and severe criticism, and religious opinions will be scrutinized with as little favour as any other. It is, therefore, a time to wish that our establishment was purged from every erroneous mixture, that the adversary may have no advantage, when he seeketh occasion against us. It is a time to hope, that with all the interior advantages we have acquired since the time of the reformation, when learning and science but began to dawn after a long night of ignorance; with all the accession of critical knowledge in the scriptures, and the light derived from thence upon religion in general; when every difficulty, and objections of every kind have been stated and examined; and in every question the moments on each side are ready at hand to be compared and balanced; and when there are as able hands to improve these advantages, and men as capable and qualified for their learning, judgment, and temper, as the church can ever hope to be blessed with, it may surely be hoped, that the public face of religion may be made to appear, if not in perfect beauty, yet free from every conspicuous blemish, and approaching somewhat nearer to purity and perfection.

Whatever restrictions are thought necessary to be laid on those who are appointed to be teachers of the word and doctrine, which yet surely in their present state are a burden heavy to be borne, and in truth ignominious and reproachful both to the church which submits to, and the state which continues to impose them; I say, whatever restrictions of this kind may be thought necessary for the ministers of the church, we may wish her service to be free and open to all believers; that if possible, nothing which offends should enter into it, but that all who agree in the great truth of religion may with one heart glorify God together, and unite in the same worship with the full consent of their minds, of their reason and conscience, which cannot bend to authority. This alone would, I am persuaded, conduce much towards putting an end to all divisions, and towards restoring the credit of religion and piety, which are so deplorably sinking among us.

Rational religion is the glory of our nature. This when seen in practice, or contemplated in theory, will touch the mind and captivate the heart. Christiani-

ty has taught this to the world, and is the only institution, after the Jewish, that ever taught a worship worthy of God and man. The love of God and man are the great catholic principles, which it is the avowed intention of this religion to establish in the hearts of men. This is declared to be the end of all its doctrines, institutions, and precepts. These then above all should be kept in view in all human forms and establishments of religion. These should be the lesson held out in example, and recommended through all. At least nothing which interferes with these principles; nothing which debases the moral character of the Deity, or contracts our charity and good-will towards men, should be admitted into them. A public worship, formed on these principles, and animated with this spirit, as it must be open to all, must win the esteem, if not the concurrence of all, and would, perhaps, do more towards reforming the world, than can be done by human authority in any other way.

The devotional parts of scripture are in sentiment and language the most simple, rational, and sublime that can be imagined. These our church hath happily adopted in many parts of her liturgy, and imitated in others. From this plentiful source, improvements, if wanted, may be had without end. And by keeping this model always in view, and rejecting every thing of doubtful disputation, or leaving it expressed in the terms of scripture, her service might be freed from all objections; she might defy the scorn and malice of her enemies, and spare some shame and confusion to those of her friends who are most anxious for her honour and prosperity.

ANECDOTE of a YOUNG MUS- SULMAN.

“WHAT a miserable wretch am I, said Adraffan Ugli, a young Mussulman, to have such a multitude of masters? If I had as many different souls and bodies, they would be hardly sufficient to go through all my services. O Allah! wherefore didst thou not make me an owl? I could then have enjoyed my hollow tree and liberty: I could have eaten my mice at my leisure, without the consent of a master. The state of freedom

is certainly what man was originally designed for: the introduction of masters could only be in consequence of the perversion of his nature. No one man was ever made continually to serve another. In a well regulated society every man would have charitably assisted his neighbour. The clear-sighted would have led the blind; the active would have supplied the cripple with crutches; this would have been Mahomet's paradise, and now it is hell itself.”

Thus spoke Adraffan Ugli on receiving the strapado from one of his masters.

Some years after, this Adraffan Ugli became a bashaw of three tails, made a prodigious fortune, and firmly believed that all men, except the grand Turk, and the grand visir, were born to serve him, and all women be subject to his pleasure.

VOLTAIRE.

ON LUXURY.

IN a country where the people should go barefoot, ought the first person that procured a pair of shoes to be blamed for luxury? Would it not rather be a proof of his good sense and industry?

May not the same be said of him who first wore a shirt? As to the man who first contrived to have a shirt washed, and wore a second and a third time, and so on, I look upon him to have been a prodigious genius, and dare say that he was capable of governing a state.

Nevertheless it is probable that he was considered by those who did not wear clean linen as an effeminate person, who was likely to corrupt the manners of the people.

It is not long since a Norwegian reproached a Dutchman with luxury. What is become, said he, of those happy times, when a merchant on going from Amsterdam to the Indies, left a quarter of dried beef in his kitchen, and found it at his return? Where are your wooden spoons, and your iron forks? Is it not a shame for a sober Dutchman to lie in a damask bed?

“Go to Batavia,” answered the man of Amsterdam, “get ten ton of gold, as I have done, and see whether you will not want to be a little better clothed, fed, and lodged.”

VOLTAIRE.

The POETICAL INSPECTOR.

NUMBER I.

Mysterious round! what skill, what force
 distine,
 Deep-felt in these appear! —

THOMSON.

IN Thomson's moral and descriptive lays,
 At once the painter and the bard we
 praise;
 Truth shines in all his scenes from Nature
 drawn;

The waving forests, and the verdant lawn—
 All that is great and graceful in his page,
 Is strongly mark'd th' attention to engage;
 Born in poetic painting to excel
 On ev'ry landscape we with pleasure dwell;
 And when we've finish'd the presented view,
 To give it still more force, want nothing new.

Minute observer of the rural scene,
 His just conceptions, and reflections keen,
 Mix'd, at judicious intervals, among
 The rural pages in his classic song,
 Are pleasing proofs of an illumin'd mind
 By learning cultur'd, and by taste refin'd,
 And ev'ry moral, each religious part
 Proclaims the genuine goodness of his heart.

To the year's Seasons if we life compare,
 And trace the nice resemblances with care,
 Much wisdom we may learn, perhaps con-
 tent,

For life they, circling, justly represent:
 To those who mark the changes of the skies,
 Each varying Season as it justly flies,
 Holds out instruction, and the studious sage
 With ev'ry month may moralize his page:
 In ev'ry month the sentimental Muse,
 While she her moral search, well-pleas'd,
 pursues,

Of strong resemblance vestiges may find,
 And by those vestiges improve the mind.

In the bright scenes to which gay Spring gives
 birth,

When genial suns unbind the frozen earth,
 And Nature, renovatèd, smiles around,
 Strokes emblematic of men's life are found.

When parents fond, a loss like this sustain,
 By pow'rful feelings prompted, they com-
 plain,

Till Resignation by her potent sway,
 Drives all reflections from the mind away,
 Which rise, rebellious, in the hour of grief,
 And, to the soul o'er-whelm'd, administers
 relief.

How oft in Spring do nipping winds annoy
 Young buds, and hopes of promis'd fruit de-
 stroy!

So nipp'd is, oft, the youth, in beauty's pride,
 The Loves and Graces sporting by his side,

Just as the dawn of manhood we behold,
 With ev'ry virtue in his heart enroll'd.

Of lusty Manhood, frolicksome and gay,
 Who laughs and carols thro' the thoughtless
 day;

With blooming health luxuriantly blest,
 And by no-keen, corroding cares deprest;
 Summer may, fairly, be pronounc'd the type,
 When Nature, buxom Nature, rich and ripe,
 With all her beauties captivates the eyes,
 And with ecstatic joys her votaries supplies.

When Summer suns inflame the ambient air,
 And from sulphureous clouds red lightnings
 glare,

Men's furious passions raging for a vent,
 The sky's convulsions aptly represent:
 While the loud thunder rattling all around,
 The firmest awe, the weakest minds astound.

When no gay foliage decorates the trees,
 Th' analogizing sage discerns, with ease,
 In the swift fall of each autumnal day
 The certain signatures of life's decay;
 The leaves descending, and the shortning
 days

Reflections serious in his mind will raise;
 Who, tho' his setting-sun is e'er so bright,
 Must feel he's posting to the shades of night.

To him whose mind's with useful knowledge
 stor'd,

Ev'n rugged Winter lessons will afford,
 Which may yield comfort to his latter stage,
 Tho' bending, stooping, with the weight of
 age;

Taught by those lessons, at th' approach of
 Death,

Serenely smiling, he resigns his breath;
 By Faith supported firmness he maintains,
 And soars to realms where Spring eternal
 reigns.

POSTSCRIPT.

The Two BROOM-MEN.

WHEN a couple of broom-men had chatted,
 one day,

On a number of things, in a sociable way;
 A new subject they started: says Jack, "my
 friend Joe,

I have long been most plaguily puzzled to
 know,

How you manage to sell your brooms cheaper
 than mine,

As I steal the materials" — "I like your de-
 sign,

Replied Jack; but improvements the soul of a
 trade;

All the brooms I dispose of, I steal ready
 made."

CAMILLUS.

CAMILLUS. A CHARACTER.

CAMILLUS, doating on his hounds and horns,
 And horses, all domestic pleasures scorns;
 He ne'er could lead a sentimental life,
 Fond of his home, and converse with his wife;
 Books would to him no entertainment yield,
 His joys all center in the wood and field;
 Charm'd with the "gallant chiding" of his hounds,
 His ears are fitted for no other sounds:
 The sweetest strains that Italy can boast,
 On him, like pearls on porkers, would be lost.

Account of the Proceedings in both
 HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from p. 703, Vol. XIII.)

IN the House of Commons, December 14, the Secretary at War entered upon the business of the army, which, though of a very perplexing nature, consisting chiefly of figures, he stated, in a clear and precise manner, the different heads to the committee: he said that the army which he propos'd for the ensuing year, amounted, according to estimate, to 186,225 men; that of these there were 129,000 effective, rank and file, and about 26,000 commissioned and non-commissioned officers of all descriptions; so that of course there was not above one seventh of the whole force stated upon paper, that was not effective. Last year he had laid it down as a rule to reduce all companies, the establishment of which stood at 70 men each, but which had not more than 56 to 56; and those of 100 men per company, which had not more than 86 to 86. By this regulation much money had been saved, and therefore he was determined to adhere to it this year. He then went through all the estimates separately; for guards and garrisons—for American and Plantation service—the staff, militia, and the East Indies—shewing where there was an increase in men and expence, and the quantum of each, and where there was a decrease since last year. The militia and plantation service stood still upon the same estimate; there was a decrease in the establishment for guards and garrisons, but there was an increase for the East Indies. Last year only one battalion of the king's troops had been voted for the East Indies, and that was commanded by lord M'Leod. Since that several other corps had been sent to that quarter of the world; the second battalion of the 42d, or lord John Murray's; a battalion of lord Seaforth's; Fullerton's and Humberston's battalions: and it was the intention of government to send out two more regiments of infantry, and one of dis-

JAN. 1782.

mounted dragoons, making in the whole more than 9000 men: however, notwithstanding the increase in this particular part of the service, the reductions that had taken place in other parts made it, that in the whole of the military departments, the augmentations this year did not exceed the vote of the last by more than 4074. The bargain that the public had made with the East India Company, for the maintenance of these troops, was for two lacks of rupees, valued at two shillings and a penny the rupee; so that the public would be eased of the burden of maintaining them, after they should have put to sea. However, it would be necessary for the nation to pay them whilst they should be on shore, and to give them, according to custom, six months pay in advance; but when the two lacks of rupees should have been paid, there would be a sum of four thousand pounds more than the troops had cost the public. Some of the regiments that had been brought home, and particularly those under the convention of Saratoga had not been reduced, as it had been found much more expedient to permit them to recruit as fast as possible, and several of them had done it with tolerable success; but indeed he was sorry to say in general, the recruiting service had been indifferent, it having fallen off both in numbers and the quality of the men; the numbers raised during the present year amounting only to about 10,000, odd hundreds, about 3500 of whom had been raised for independent companies. Great numbers of our troops, he said, had fallen in Jamaica, and on the expedition to the Spanish main, and that 2000 had been carried off at St. Lucia; the cause of the mortality having, however, been in a great degree removed, its effects had been considerably less felt since that period. When the troops first went out to it, there were no barracks; they were soon set about building some; their labours and fatigues were fatal to many, and when the barracks had been half raised, the hurricane had swept them away; however they had been since rebuilt, and now death appeared much less frequent among the troops. As to the non effectives which he had already stated at 25, or 26,000 men, the stoppages of money, granted them upon paper would not be lost to the public; it would be applied to the recruiting service, and, therefore, he trusted the Commons would not make any difficulty to vote the sum he should call for on that head. The whole of the sum necessary for the ordinary expences, of all the various estimates, he stated at about 3,300,000l. and concluded by moving, a resolution on the first estimate for guards and garrisons in Great Britain.

Colonel Barre opposed the motion in an able manner, saying, he did not understand voting money for men who did not exist;

F

for

for though it should not be lost to the public, yet it was always sweated at the different offices through which it was to pass in its return to the exchequer. The commissioners of public accounts had said in one of their reports, that it was not wise to draw upon the exchequer but for necessary purposes. The principle of this report and expression was well founded and truly applicable to the point in question, and upon that principle he must condemn a vote for subsistence of 26,000 men who did not exist. The money once issued from the exchequer, never returned the same as to the *quantum*, and as it was only for the benefit of the persons in the different offices through which it was to find its way back that it was to be issued, he must necessarily reprobate an application to Parliament for money for a similar purpose. He could discover no reason why many of the regiments that were greatly deficient in their compliments, had not been totally reduced. The Royal English Fusileers had not a quarter of their compliment; the Royal Scotch Fusileers had but 100 men; the 60th regiment of Royal Americans were rated at 3,500 men, and had not 1,500; many other regiments were still weaker in proportion; and therefore to keep up the establishment of the corps, at a time when the honourable gentleman who sits in the war office had declared that the recruiting service was falling off both in numbers and quality, could only be to keep up the public burdens, at a time when the weight was so great, that the nation was nearly overwhelmed with it. The signification of the estimates with respect to the garrisons was; that at present we had two sieges going on, and the garrisons of both the besieged fortresses were, he feared, rated in the estimates, much stronger than they really were: Gibraltar was stated to have between five and six thousand men; he wished it might prove so, but it remained a very dubious point with him; Minorca, according to the same authority, had two thousand three hundred men, which he was equally inclined to consider as an exaggeration, for he had seen a letter from Fort St. Philip, by which he understood there were in that fortress only one thousand five hundred and twenty-five men, not including seamen. However weak, as he believed the garrisons of both these important places were, he did not entertain so much uneasiness on that head, as he did upon another—he had his anxieties for the safety of Gibraltar and Minorca; but they originated in some mistrust he had of certain intentions of administration: this mistrust gave him more uneasiness than any apprehension arising from the reduced state of these garrisons. The colonel then stated several other objections to the estimates on account of what they contained, and then censured administration for one thing which they *did not* contain, which was “The state of the provincial corps in America”—A

body of troops which he understood to be then the best in his majesty's service, was undoubtedly *unconstitutional*—“because not voted by Parliament” That House was entirely ignorant of their being raised; but when they were to be paid that House was made acquainted with their existence; and even then it was under the estimate of the extraordinary of the army that they were introduced before Parliament, in the gross and least explicit manner. He wished the House would resent such treatment, and insist upon an estimate for those troops to be laid upon the table, at the same time that the other estimates for the king's troops should be produced.

Mr. Hussy spoke next, and strenuously opposed the motion—he was very particular with regard to the independent companies, the establishment of which he strongly reprobated, on account of the rank they gave to junior officers, over the heads of others who had served much longer. He mentioned one instance of a relation who went out to America as lieutenant in Preston's light horse, where he had remained ever since, had often bled in his country's service for six successive years, and still remains a lieutenant; though an officer enjoys the rank of captain in one of those independent companies, who was not born at the time the lieutenant in America, to whom he alluded, first entered the army.

Captain Lutterel took the same line, as the two former gentlemen. Amongst other things he said, it had been said in that House, that the navy of England could not be made equal to France alone, if the latter should give her thoughts wholly to the raising of a navy. But this was a doctrine to which he would never subscribe; on the contrary, he believed, and he was ready to prove it, and would undertake to do it on the first navy day, that the naval resources of this country were such, that if drawn out, and managed by a man of ability, zeal, and integrity, we might have a navy that should be found to be superior to that of France and Spain united, to the whole force of the armed neutrality, combined with that of the House of Bourbon.

He had heard of distinctions between the naval and the land service; the former having been called the favourite of the public: the latter, the unconstitutional part of our defence. But these were distinctions that he would wish to discountenance, and particularly when made by professional men, the distinctions were invidious, and greatly prejudicial to the public service. The fleet and army were equally useful; one was not worth a farthing without the other, and the success of all our operations depended upon the harmony and good understanding between both: as therefore he looked upon an army to be as essentially necessary as a fleet, and as he hoped

hoped a good use would now be made of it, he would certainly vote for the estimates as they stood, and therefore he would oppose the motion for Mr. Ord's leaving the chair.

Mr. T. Townshend replied to Mr. Luttrell, with respect to our raising a navy equal to that of all Europe, which he wished for, but could not be so sanguine as to expect.

Lord G. Germaine said in substance as follows, That he had already said, and was fully convinced, that if the sovereignty of Great Britain over America was lost, this country, from that moment, would be undone. This being his opinion, he was determined never to have a hand in any measure, by which that sovereignty should be given up. This was his opinion at present, it always had been, and ever would be, his firm opinion to his last breath. With regard to the sentiments of the cabinet, respecting the further prosecution of the war, he had said this much, and this much only, that all his majesty's ministers were unanimously of opinion, that, under the present circumstances and pressure of affairs, it would not be for the public good to withdraw the forces from America. In this opinion he had concurred, in this opinion all his majesty's ministers had concurred. His lordship then passed to another subject.

With respect to the provincial corps, he said, that the reason why they had not been included in the estimates, was, that some share of the public money might be spared, by avoiding to vote an establishment for these troops. At present they were paid according to muster; and not one farthing pay was issued, but to those who stood muster; and for this purpose they were regularly and frequently mustered. Hence this beneficial consequence ensued, that none were paid but effective men, standing in their shoes. But if they were voted an establishment, this establishment must be at a certain fixed number; and for the whole of this number, money must be sent over to America: and it would be a difficult matter to get back the money arising from stoppages for non-effective men. All this, however, was avoided by paying only for those who regularly muster; their numbers were well known; he had in his hand two returns of these corps, the one dated in August last, from the inspector of the provincial troops; the other, from Sir Henry Clinton, in his gross return of the whole force; and this was dated in September; both accounts differed in about two hundred men. These returns he was ready to lay before the committee, if forms would permit it; or to shew to gentlemen who should think proper to read them. Nothing, he said, had been omitted to render these corps as little burthensome to the public as possible; nay, their very clothing was sent from hence; nor had their commanders the benefit of supplying it.

Mr. Fox maintained that ministers were still out of their senses, and that no two of them thought alike; or rather that speaking as if they had different opinions, they still were of one mind, and that was for carrying on the American war. One noble lord had spoken out; the other pretended that the war, as lately carried on, was renounced; but this meant nothing, or if any thing, it meant that the war should be pursued; for he recollected very well, that the noble lord in the blue ribbon having been asked about four years ago, if he meant still to carry on the war, he replied, "Not in the same manner, we must contract the scale, and pursue it upon narrower ground:" this was exactly the language of the same noble lord at present, "he will not carry it on in the same manner as he did under lord Cornwallis;" but had the noble lord said he could not carry it on at all? By no means; on the contrary, if the meaning of his words was to be ascertained by those of exactly the same nature that he had used four years ago, it must be inferred, that he is as much for war as the noble lord at the head of the American department.

Lord North rose to explain himself, (See Supp. to 1781, p. 671.) and said, that he renounced an inland continental war in America, and that all the war that he thought it would be proper to wage would be in defence of our posts there, which it was by no means his wish to give up.

Mr. W. Pitt spoke in answer to lord North with his usual energy.

Mr. Rigby, after having paid several compliments to the last speaker, added, what he had said that night had nearly made him abandon his opinion, founded upon a long series of reasoning within himself, and upon a comparison of a great variety of events, which he had witnessed; he would, however, speak his sentiments. The debate had, very properly, been considered as a mere adjournment of the debate of yesterday, and certainly the great question of that day involved in the consideration of the estimates then on the table. The reason that he voted against the motions of the honourable baronet, was no other than his being convinced that had those motions been carried, this country was immediately bound to a dereliction of the American war altogether, and to withdraw all our troops—a measure which he did not think gentlemen were quite mad enough to adopt. The American war he had always deemed both just and necessary, and he had always voted for it, because whilst he was convinced of the justice and necessity of it, he had not in his mind a doubt of its practicability. The independence of America he did not like to give up, or renounce the war until we should be first beaten. That day was now arrived, and he was tired of the war, because he saw it was no longer practicable. The noble lord in the blue ribbon had said, that he renounced the contin-

mental war in America; he believed his assertion, and he believed it as well from his own private word as from the estimates then before the House; for as we had lost an army, and as that lost army was included in the estimates, and no new army was demanded to supply the place of the former, it was evident that not having been able to conquer America with the former army, the noble lord could not think of undertaking it when the army had suffered a defalcation of seven thousand men. It was clear, therefore, that the noble lord meant only to carry on a war of posts, and therefore he for his part would vote the present supply.

Lord Nugent, general Conway, Sir, George Saville, spoke against continuing the American war. At length the House divided, on the motion for Mr. Ord to leave the chair, when it was negatived by a majority of 82. Ayes 84. Noes 166.

December 17th, Mr. Burke made a long and flowery speech in the House of Commons concerning Mr. Laurens's confinement, to which lord Germaine and lord North replied; but as that gentleman has since been released, we think the force of Mr. Burke's eloquence, in this respect, has ere now so much co-operated, that our readers will be satisfied with our barely mentioning it. This debate, however, produced a motion from general Burgoyne, which was carried, for an address to his majesty for extracts of all letters to and from the secretary of state for the American department, &c. relative to the release of prisoners from the year 1781.

In the House of Lords, December 19, when it was moved to read the land tax bill a 3d time, the marquis of Rockingham rose, and said he should move an amendment, viz. that the bill be read a 3d time on the 1st day after the parliamentary recess. Why he thought such an amendment highly necessary, he would explain to the House. The marquis then argued strongly on the calamitous situation of public affairs, imputed to ministers the blame of the whole, charging it to be the effect of their weak councils, their bad intelligence, and their injudicious conduct. He said the country was in such a condition, that unless immediate and effectual measures were taken for its relief, nothing but ruin could be expected. The marquis then took a retrospective view of what had happened in the West Indies, North America, and Europe, adverting to the recent affair of admiral Kempenfelt and the French fleet; and said ministers were inexcusable for not having sent out a more powerful squadron; when it was well known what force the French had in Brest harbour. After dwelling upon these points for a considerable time, and giving a most melancholy picture of our situation in every quarter of the globe, declaring that he regarded Sir Eyre Coote's success in India to amount to nothing more

than his having merely extricated himself from the difficulties that threatened him from a body of 200,000 men, for an army he could not call them. He concluded by saying he once more submitted his motion to their lordships, and thought that acceding to it was the most likely means of effecting a change of ministry.

Lord Stormont rose and said, that as the noble marquis had thrown out some imputations against the conduct of ministers, he thought it incumbent on him to say a few words upon the matter under consideration. The noble marquis had dwelt particularly on the dangerous situation of the country, which he had described with great force by citing a variety of facts (whether well founded or not, was not for him to deny, or admit) but all of which tended to render the position of the noble marquis the more alarming; and yet pressed on every side as the country was allowed to be, the noble marquis had in effect ended with saying, that, therefore, he humbly moved that the supplies might be withheld; that the wheels of government might be clogged; that the operations of the executive power might be put a stop to; that the means of defending the country might be refused; that we might be obliged to stand stock still, just at the very moment when it was confessed on all hands that there was the greatest necessity for vigour and exertion. This being the result of the arguments of the noble marquis, his lordship flattered himself it was not necessary for him to use many words to persuade the House to refuse their consent to a motion so dangerous to the public welfare, and so directly opposite to every principle of true policy. The noble marquis must, therefore, excuse him, if he declared that he should vote for reading the bill as had been originally moved.

The duke of Chandos took the same line with the marquis of Rockingham, and depicted the state of our affairs in the West Indies in a still more deplorable point of view than the marquis had done, saying he had good intelligence another of our islands, (Barbadoes) either was or soon would be in the hands of the French.

Lord Westmorland objected to the marquis's proposed amendment, and said, he believed neither the marquis nor the duke could shew him a single precedent for it.

The marquis rose again to say a word or two respecting what had fallen from the noble viscount in the green ribbon: the noble lord had charged him with a design of stopping the exertions of his majesty's ministers: so far from having any such purpose in view, it was their want of exertion that he complained of. It was to their want of exertion that every one of the misfortunes of the war had been owing. Had it not been for want of exertion Mr. Kempenfelt would not have been sent with 12 sail of the

line to fight *nineteen*; and what was the country to expect in the present hour of uncommon danger? Without a better navy, what comfort was to be derived from the language of those in office upon that subject? It had, he understood, been declared by a lord of the Admiralty, that our navy not only was at present inferior to that of the House of Bourbon; but that it never could be otherwise. How was this melancholy exertion to be reconciled to the declaration of the first lord of the Admiralty in that House! A session or two since, he would not pretend to say his memory was sufficiently accurate to enable him to state the specific words used by the noble earl on the subject, but the purport of them most clearly was, "That a first lord of the Admiralty deserved to lose his head, if he did not take care to have at all times a fleet capable to face that of the House of Bourbon." We have but too fatally experienced the reverse was the fact. The recent affair of admiral Kempenfelt was but one addition to many proofs of our inferiority that we had seen and lamented. A noble lord had charged him, with wishing to prevent any supplies being voted at all. His motion said no such thing, nor had his argument tended to support such a suggestion. He had expressly moved that the 3d reading be deferred till the first day after the recess. It was in the power of the ministers to bring that first day as forward, and make the recess as short as they pleased. Let them adjourn for ten days or a fortnight if they chuse it. But he must contend against the practice of late years—a bringing on the most material business of any that ever did, or could come before Parliament, viz. the voting supplies out of the public purse precipitately, at a time when the members of both Houses were chiefly gone into the country, when the town itself was empty, and when it was known there would be but a thin attendance. The marquis added some other observations, and persisted in his motion.

Lord Sandwich in reply said, with regard to the motion, he could not think there was the least necessity for him to take up the time of their lordships by endeavouring to persuade them, at a moment like the present, of the extreme difficulty that would arise to government if the supplies were withheld; he would therefore confine himself to those parts of the speech of the noble marquis that alluded to himself: the noble marquis had thought proper to give him a meaning which he never had entertained, and to impute words to him that had not come out of his mouth. He had again and again explained his declaration relative to the navy which this country ought to have—a declaration which he made in the course of a speech in a former debate that took place four or five years ago. That declaration had been much misunderstood, and of course much misrepresented.

It had been repeatedly mistated; what he said, and what he meant to say, was this. It ought ever to be an object with government to keep the navy of Great Britain on as respectable a footing as possible, and to make it equal in Europe to the navy of the House of Bourbon, whenever it could be done. This was his meaning at the time: it was still his opinion. He had held it uniformly, and had often given it as his advice. There were circumstances, however, which might happen and make that impracticable, which was in itself extremely wise. In the present war there had occurred times when large detachments were proper; again there had been other times when it was more prudent and better policy to keep the bulk of our naval force at home. His lordship said he thought the reasoning of the noble marquis respecting admiral Kempenfelt's recent affair rather uncandid; though the event had not turned out so fortunate as some persons sanguine wishes might have led them to expect; yet surely it had been far from unsuccessful; the admiral had taken from 15 to 20 transports, laden with stores, ammunition, brass ordnance, and troops. After expatiating upon the advantages we should derive from this lucky stroke, and paying admiral Kempenfelt some genteel compliments upon his bravery and conduct, he continued. With regard to the French having 13 ships to our 12, he said from information he had received he was persuaded that over-night they had not more than 13 or 14 sail, and that they were reinforced in the night by 5 heavy ships—had that circumstance not occurred, he had not a doubt but our success would have been more complete. He hoped, therefore, no blame would be imputed to admiral Kempenfelt, or to any other officer. He was sure the country was greatly indebted to the skill of the admiral, and to the bravery of those who served under him. After more argument on that and other points, relative to the Admiralty and navy, his lordship concluded with giving his consent that the land tax bill be read a third time.

The marquis of Rockingham desired it might not go out to the world, that he had imputed the smallest degree of blame to admiral Kempenfelt. He had not said a syllable to warrant such a supposition. He knew admiral Kempenfelt to be an able officer, and he was convinced, that he highly merited the esteem of his country, for the good conduct he had shewn in the late affair. All that he said upon the subject, went to censure the Admiralty, for not having put it in the power of so deserving and so capable a commander, to have rendered the event more importantly successful, and to have frustrated the French enterprize effectually. It was not admirable Kempenfelt he blamed for not having done impossibilities, but the Admiralty for having sent him with 12 ships,

to cope with so a superior force as 19 fail of the line. Admiral Kempenfelt had taken every possible advantage of his situation; he knew that his copper-bottomed ships were more manageable than those of the enemy, and he pushed the opportunity which he derived from that circumstance, as far as could have been expected. When he found the superior force of the enemy, he wisely avoided risking an engagement, where there was not the smallest probability of success. The marquis begged, therefore, that neither the noble earl, nor any of the audience present, would suggest or suppose, that he entertained a thought, or had used an expression, indicating censure on admiral Kempenfelt.

Lord Sandwich rose again, and said, the war had been in a great measure a war of detachment, and considering the variety of pressing calls upon the service, every thing had been done by the Admiralty for the defence of the country and the annoyance of the enemy, that was practicable.

Lord Chedworth declared, the noble marquis deserved the thanks of his country for having made the motion.

At a quarter before five the question being put, the amendment was negatived without a division, there being about eleven Non-Contents and 3 Contents. The main question was then put, and agreed to, and the bill read a third time and passed.

House of Lords Dec. 20, this day his majesty came to the House, and after he had given his royal assent to the bills that had passed both Houses, this House was adjourned to Jan. 30th.

The same day in the House of Commons, as soon as the Speaker returned from the House of Lords, Sir Grey Cooper moved that the House at its rising, should adjourn to Tuesday the 22d of January following.

Mr. Byng repeating the word *adjourn* with strong marks of surprise, asked how gentlemen could think of going into the country, and leaving the affairs of the public, in the alarming situation every one then beheld them. Had gentlemen read last Tuesday's gazette? he asked if the sovereign did not want advice? if the times were not critical? and if the way to give his majesty counsel was to break up and adjourn? The late event at sea, afforded a strong proof of the necessity of enquiring into the state of the navy, and of endeavouring to discover the cause, why twelve ships of the line had been sent out to watch nineteen. The noble lord at the head of the admiralty, had declared in another place, what ought to be the punishment of the naval minister, who should not have a force equal to that of the whole house of Bourbon. But he understood that of late that noble lord had qualified his declaration, and said, that such a superiority or equality was to be expected in Europe only—it re-

mained then, that the noble lord should be judged upon his own ground. In what sea did admiral Kempenfelt meet the French fleet? was it not in the seas of Europe? should he not then be compelled to account for that inferiority of our naval force in that part of Europe? An enquiry into his conduct was due to the nation, and it could not be too speedily instituted; but how could it be begun when gentlemen talked of nothing but adjournment? It was well known that after a recess, there never was a full attendance before the call of the House, and at present the order of the call stood for the 31st of January, so that there would be a difference of nine days between the meeting after the recess, and the call of the House, and consequently so much time lost.

Lord North apprehended, that in one respect the honourable member was under a mistake; for though the question then before the House should be carried, still it would not prevent any gentleman from bringing forward, the moment after the question had been carried, any business he might wish to agitate, for the question was only that the House at rising that day, should adjourn to the 22d of January, and therefore it did not at all interfere with any business that might be brought on before the rising of the House. He vindicated the amendment upon two principles, that many gentlemen were gone out of town, and that few returned before the birth-day, which was the 21st, and as to the call, it might be fixed for the first day of their meeting.

Mr. Fox drew from Tuesday's Gazette several arguments to prove the inexpediency of a long recess. The state of the navy, and the conduct of the noble lord to whose care it was entrusted, called aloud for investigation, and the House could not, in justice to its constituents, delay an enquiry upon which depended the honour, the safety, and the very being of the state. It was obvious that of these two things, gentlemen must chuse one—that the first lord of the Admiralty wanted intelligence, or that he was guilty of neglect; if he really wanted intelligence respecting the French fleet at Brest, it was more than any other man in the kingdom had wanted for at least this fortnight past, for during that time there was not a merchant in the city who was not perfectly well acquainted with this circumstance, that there were 22 fail of the line in Brest water; and that they were to put to sea in a very short time. But had the first lord of the Admiralty acted as if he was acquainted with any such fact? Undoubtedly he had not; or he would never have ventured to send out admiral Kempenfelt with 12 ships to intercept 22. If on the other hand, that noble lord knew all along the exact state of the force at Brest, what ex-

ions did he make? what means did he employ, to have a force equipped, sufficient to cope with these 22 ships of the line? No exertions were made, no means employed to frustrate the designs of the enemy; this he might venture to speak out, because 12 ships only had been employed on that service. He did not see therefore, how the noble lord could clear himself of the two charges, of ignorance of the enemy's force, or of neglect in preparing to meet it.

The noble lord had said in another place, and he (Mr. Fox) would not be tied down by order so much, as not to advert to it over and over again, that the naval minister, who should not have a force superior to the navy of the house of Bourbon, ought to lose his head. Had that noble lord ever produced such a force, or any thing similar, since he had been at the head of the Admiralty? So far from 't, that he could not send out a force equal to that of France alone; and on Monday last, when people were given to expect a naval engagement was likely to take place between the French and admiral Kempenfelt, there seemed to be a kind of joy in the countenance of every man, because, as it was said, we were inferior only in a few ships, so that the superiority of the enemy, which might in general have grieved us, was of just such a size, that it afforded us this ground of consolation, that we thanked heaven it was not greater. However, such had been the remissness of the first Lord of the Admiralty, either in obtaining correct intelligence, or in calling forth all the resources in his power to be prepared for the worst, that our consolation was but short lived, for we soon found that admiral Kempenfelt, from whom we had expected so much, had fled from the enemy; he did not mean by this, to throw the smallest imputation upon admiral Kempenfelt, who was an officer, to whom public opinion justly gave credit for gallantry and uncommon abilities in his profession. The noble Lord at the head of the Admiralty had said, that a person in his situation, ought to have a force at home, though he should not have it any were else, sufficient to check the attempts of the enemy in Europe. But had he acted as if he entertained such an opinion? By no means; for the more he was convinced of his weakness in the West Indies, the more he should have exerted himself to prevent the enemy sending out an equipment to that part of the world, and thereby not risked the possession of our valuable islands in that quarter, which probably would have been secured even from danger, by a force sufficient to have fought the French fleet, which had passed by admiral Kempenfelt; but that fleet had gone by, and God only knew how fatal the consequences might be!

From all this it was clear that an enquiry into the conduct of the navy was absolutely

necessary, and it ought not to be delayed; the lost honour of the nation; the estates and fortunes of its inhabitants called for it; the loss of our empire in America called for it; the danger in which our islands in the West-Indies stood called for it; every thing dear to an Englishman called for it; nay, the very expression of the noble earl himself, when he said the first lord of the Admiralty should have a navy equal to the house of Bourbon, called for it. If that noble lord himself did not wish for an enquiry, it was evident, that it was fear that made him decline it; to propose a long adjournment would be to conspire with that noble lord in putting off an enquiry. A long adjournment, four years ago, had lost us America; for while the Parliament were in recess, the French and Americans concluded their famous alliance; another long recess might complete our ruin; the enquiry ought to be speedy, for though he could not bring a charge of treachery against the noble earl, still he could not help saying there was something so like treachery in the administration of the navy, that an enquiry into it ought to be instituted without the smallest loss of time. So many errors, so many blunders, could scarcely be the effects of chance; for every step taken by the naval minister afforded matter of conversation, and so clear was he of the truth of this assertion, that if the friends of the present admiralty could only prove that in any one single instance during the whole course of the war, the naval minister had acted as became a minister or a statesman, he would acquit him of the numberless charges that had been brought against him; but it was well known that no such single instance could be found; nay, that so notorious was the incapacity of the naval minister, that even his colleagues in office could no longer trust him.

Lord North vindicated himself from conspiring with the noble lord alluded to, as the noble lord wished for nothing more than such an enquiry.

Id. Mulgrave made a long speech in favour of lord Sandwich, and amongst other things said, As to the article of intelligence or information, in which the honourable member supposed the Admiralty to be deficient, he could only say, that they had early notice of the intention of the French cabinet, to send out a reinforcement to the West-Indies; and that in consequence of that notice, admiral Kempenfelt's Squadron had been fitted out: the intelligence had indeed varied with respect to numbers, but from all the accounts and variations combined, there had not been reason to suppose that more than eight ships would have been sent out from Brest for the West-Indies; if the French had altered their mind, we could not help that; and yet, he believed, he might say six ships which admiral Kempenfelt saw in the line in the morning,

morning, had sailed the preceding day from Brest, and not at the same time with the rest of the fleet; nay, that some of the others had not come from Brest at all, but from Rochfort and other places, from which they had joined the squadron.

Hitherto he had spoken of lord Sandwich as in his official capacity at the Admiralty board. In his other capacity of a cabinet minister, those with whom he sat in the cabinet knew best how to defend him: this much, however, he would say of the cabinet in general, that such was their power, that they had the distribution of the naval force of the kingdom, and it had been known in former administrations, that orders had been sent from the cabinet to the Admiralty, to prepare a certain number of ships, without giving, at the same time, the least intimation on what expedition they were to be employed; so that in fact though the Admiralty was not without intelligence, yet very often squadrons were fitted out in consequence of information received elsewhere, and not communicated to the Admiralty: that board, therefore, was chiefly official, and bound to obey the directions of his majesty's confidential servants. As to the conduct of the noble lord at the head of the Admiralty, in his official capacity he would say this much, that a more industrious, indefatigable, zealous, and active man never sat in the same office; the noble lord had his confidence and his friendship, because he knew how well disposed and qualified he was to support the navy of this country; and in justice to him he must make this one observation, that tho' at the beginning of the American war, one of the principal arguments urged against that war was the ruin it would bring upon our navy, by the loss of the American sailors, yet notwithstanding the loss of those sailors, we had actually, through the management and industry of lord Sandwich, a much stronger navy than we had during the last war, when we had the Americans to assist in manning our ships: and therefore he must say that as a friend to the noble earl, he must be proud to see an enquiry into his conduct instituted; when he made no doubt but it would be terminated as honourably to his noble friend, as the last enquiry that had been set on foot in another place.

Mr. Fox would not admit the noble lord's distinction between lord Sandwich as first lord of the Admiralty, and a member of the cabinet; for constitutionally speaking, he knew no such thing as a cabinet; nor could he look upon any other man as responsible for the management and direction of the navy, than the first lord of the admiralty; for it would not be proper in his opinion to impeach the chancellor, or president of the council for mismanagement of the naval force of the country.

Mr. Gascoyne, sen. took the side of lord

Mulgrave, and endeavoured to vindicate lord Sandwich, from the two charges of ignorance and neglect.

Admiral Keppel took the same line as Mr. Fox. Mr. T. Townshend followed the admiral on the same side of the question. Mr. Burke desired to know if motions should be made for papers necessary to the enquiry into the administration of the navy, whether the noble lord in the blue ribbon would oppose such motions or not?

Lord North said he could give no answer to such a question; he should first know what the papers to be moved for were, and then he would give his opinion; but until he should know what the motion was, he could not tell whether he should be for it, or against it.

The question was at length put upon the motion for an adjournment, which on a suggestion from lord North was altered from the 22d to the 21st of January, and it was carried without a division.

Mr. Byng then moved for discharging the calling over the House on the 31st of January, and making a new order for the call on the 21st, which motion was carried without opposition.

Mr. Burke then presented a petition, or remonstrance, from Mr. Laurens, a prisoner in the Tower, complaining of the hardships of his confinement, to the very great prejudice of his health. After some conversation, it was ordered to lie on the table. After which the House adjourned to the 21st of January, 1782.

[To be continued.]

NOTES by several Hands.

[Continued from p. 688, Vol. XIII.]

LXV.

[T is probable, (says Mr. Tissot) that of all the causes which have injured the health of women, the principal has been the prodigious multiplication of romances within the last century. From the cradle to the most advanced age, they read them with an eagerness which keeps them almost without motion, and without sleep. A young girl, instead of running about and playing, reads, perpetually reads; and at twenty, becomes full of vapours, instead of being qualified for the duties of a good wife, or nurse. These causes, which influence the physical, equally influence the moral man. I have known persons of both sexes, whose constitutions would have been robust, weakened gradually by the too strong impressions of impassioned writings. The most tender romances

manances hinder marriages instead of promoting them. A woman, while her heart is warmed by the languors of love, does not seek a husband; a hero must lay his laurels at her feet. The fire of love does not warm her heart; it only inflames her imagination.

LXVI.

WITH regard to Rousseau's *Eloisa*, the plot appears to me to be ill conducted; the disposition of the events is bad; the characters are unnatural, and too uniform, and costume is constantly violated throughout the whole. It is always Rousseau who speaks by the mouth of his actors—What can be more excellent, in one respect, than Julia's letters upon Duels and Adultery? what more absurd in another? The character of St. Preux is, upon the whole, weak and uninteresting; that of Wolmar, forced and unnatural; that of Julia, a mixture of tenderness, magnanimity, piety, and coquetry. The whole, it must be acknowledged, is defective; but I pity the man who is only sensible of its defects. I pity the man who is not delighted, who is not transported with the beauties of detail where-with this charming work abounds; who is not melted into a love of virtue by the admirable picture the author has given of it. What a difference between the frigid gallantry of the greatest part of our romances, and the passion of love which is so strongly felt and expressed by M. Rousseau! What an immense interval between the warmth of sentiment, and the frost of *bel esprit*! What a soul, what sensibility, what vehemence was necessary to express, with so much warmth and energy, the different movements of the passions which agitate the human heart!

LXVII.

HUMANITY and generosity make the best foundation to build a character upon—A man may have birth, riches, and power; wit, learning, and courage, but without generosity, it is impossible to be a great man: whatever the rich and powerful may think of themselves, whatever value they may set upon their abundance and grandeur, they will find themselves but the more hated and despised, for the ill use they make of it.

LXVIII.

GENEROSITY does not consist in a contempt of money, in throwing it away

at random, without judgment or distinction, though that indeed is better than locking it up; but in a right disposition to proper objects, in proportion to the merit, the circumstances, the rank and condition of those who stand in need of our service.

LXIX.

TO reward merit, to redress the injured, to relieve the oppressed, to raise the modest, to humble the insolent, what a god like prerogative, were a right use made of it! Of all men, most miserable is he who has the inclination without the means. To meet with a deserving object of compassion, without having the power to give relief, of all the circumstances in life, is the most disagreeable; to have the power, is the greatest pleasure.

LXX.

THERE are rules to be observed, and measures to be kept up in the distribution of favours. Some have both the power and inclination to do good, but for want of judgment in the direction, pass only for good-natured fools, instead of generous benefactors.

LXXI.

THERE is often a magnificent pride and ill-nature in men of a great deal of wit and learning which almost overthrows all their merit; or at least, makes one angry to find things so valuable in such ill hands.

LXXII.

THE powers of the soul are so often concealed by modesty, diffidence, timidity, and a thousand other accidental affections, and the true complexion of the moral operations depends so entirely on those internal principles from whence they proceed, that those who form their notions of others by casual and distant views, must unavoidably be led into very erroneous judgments.

LXXIII.

THOUGH the beauty of the fair sex were not made to effeminate, it was certainly designed to soften our's; and without adoring their charms, we may with reason admire them. That sociable virtue, and that fine humanity, by which the better part of mankind are distinguished, and which consist not in a cold indifference, but in well ordered passions, cannot but appear more beautiful in the eye of the all-wise Being, than the sullen obedience of the most rigid philosopher.

G

THERE

LXXIV.

THERE is this difference between the qualities of the head, and those of the heart, that the pains we take to cultivate the former are often to no purpose, but the labour on the latter is never lost: the endeavour to be good never fails to produce goodness: but the endeavour to be witty or polite, frequently produces folly and affectation.

LXXV.

COMMON SENSE is below Wit, and yet above it; for men of no genius, by the help of this plain guide, are observed often to acquit themselves better in the general affairs of life, than those of higher parts, and brighter accomplishments. It is not the want of wit, but a false pretence to it, that exposes men to ridicule and contempt.

The MAN of PLEASURE.

[NUMBER CXII.]

To the Man of Pleasure.

S I R,

WHEN I look round upon the circle of my acquaintance, how few do I see that may be esteemed happy! Many of them are wealthy, most of them in good health, and few of them have any particular cause to repine at Providence, either as to their persons or stations in life. As to good sense, sound judgment, and ready wit, there is not a man amongst them who is displeas'd with himself in any of these respects, which their general behaviour and turn of conversation fully evince. And yet I repeat it, how few of them have not their inkiome moments, and even hours, of *enui*?

I called upon Jack Sprightly this morning, and he was then yawning at breakfast, complaining of the weather, and a severe head-ach. I soon found he had not been in bed before five, and, that he had assist'd at a Buck's lodge, where bumpers had circulated pretty briskly; that having been in the chair, and compelled to do the honours of president, he had brought off at least six bottles of port. I recommended strong coffee to him, with abstinence for four and twenty hours from all Bacchanalian feats, and I doubted not but he would recover his usual hilarity; that the clouds would subside, in proportion as the fumes of the

wine were dissipated in his head; and most probably it would turn out a very pleasant afternoon.

After leaving my friend Jack, to recover from his nocturnal debauch, I called upon Sam Easy; he was reading a treatise upon nervous complaints, and had already so far caught the infection, that he fancied he had every symptom that he had just been reading of. Sam was very low spirited, indeed, and said he believed it would be adviseable to go to Bath for the recovery of his health; that he had just sent for Dr. Dismal, whom he expected every moment, and the doctor's opinion would determine him what step was proper to be taken. At this moment I heard the doctor's chariot stop, and the rap at the door announced his arrival, I accordingly took my leave of Sam, and turned him over to the aid of his physician. Easy, about two years since, was one of the most pleasant, agreeable companions I knew; he carried mirth and good-humour wherever he went; he never once thought about nervous disorders, or going to Bath for the recovery of his health; when he went to a watering place, upon a summer excursion, it was in the capacity of a *bon vivant*, and in order to enjoy the amusements and partake of the diversions of the place. He had then about two hundred a-year, and he contriv'd to make both ends meet; he has since succeeded to a large fortune by the death of an uncle, and instead of enjoying it, he immures himself in his closet, reads physical writers upon almost every complaint incident to the human frame, till he terrifies himself into an opinion that he is afflic'ted with them all; and he is so alarmed at the thought of dying, and leaving his fortune behind him, that he is incessantly sending for one or other of the faculty, celebrated for their different provinces in the mater medica, to consult upon his imaginary disorders: they freeze him accordingly, and are the only gainers by Sam's being possess'd of an ample fortune.

Bob Brilliant is a man of a very different cast from the former: he not only spends all his income, which is pretty ample, but is constantly involved in debt, and to avoid being immured in a spunging-house, pays more *coucours* to bailiffs, than would in the course of two years liquidate all the legal demands upon him. When he is broke down, as he calls it, and is hard run for cash, he flies to the gaming table, where he is sometimes successful;

cessful; but the perverse bones, or the fashionable vowels*, will not always do him justice. Last night he borrowed fifty of a particular friend, and repaired to the temple of the fickle goddess—the occasionally smiled and frowned upon him: at one time he had won near five hundred, when, flushed with success, he made a bold push for a thousand—but alas! the blind deity, seemingly enraged at his temerity, gave him such a terrific glance, that, in a few minutes, he found himself stripped of every guinea; and very soon after he had created a debt of honour upwards of seven hundred. I unluckily called upon him, when he was ruminating upon his misfortunes. He told me with a sigh, “if it was not a debt of honour, it would give him no concern; but as such it must be paid within the four and twenty hours.” He had dispatched a messenger to Cent. per cent. Lazarus in Duke’s-place, and all his faith and hopes were now centered in Judaism.

I cannot conclude this letter without introducing my worthy friend Mr. S——, of New Inn. This gentleman, some years ago, had a very narrow escape from a fire, which broke out about midnight, and ever since that period, the shock he received from that conflagration has left such an impression on him, that he can never close his eyes, or get a wink of sleep, during the night. He accordingly every morning goes to bed at day light, and sleeps till the evening. In the winter, he usually rises about six o’clock, breakfasts at eight, dines about two in the morning; sips his tea or coffee about five or six, and returns to rest when Phœbus makes his appearance in the east. I called upon him the other evening near eight, when he was at breakfast, and I took afternoon tea with him. The conversation turned upon the late dreadful conflagration in the city, and the loss of so many lives. Mr. S—— concluded the conversation, with observing “that such calamities would not happen so frequently, if people would follow his method—sleep in the day time and rise at night.” But how far such an inverted system can be reconciled to business, pleasure, or happiness, is a paradox I did not chuse to request that gentleman to solve, for fear of offending him, which I would always cautiously avoid; but, perhaps, some of your ingenious correspondents may give

us their sentiments upon this subject, which would greatly oblige, Sir,

Your constant reader,

VERAX.

☞ This gentleman’s future favours would be very agreeable, and shall be duly attended to.

ACCOUNT OF NEW BOOKS and PAMPHLETS

History of Quadrupeds. In 2 Vol. 4to. 1l. 11s. 6d White.

WE are informed that this work was originally intended for private amusement, and as an index for more speedily turning to any particular animal in Buffon’s history; but as it increased beyond the author’s expectation, he has been induced to render it public. Although Mr. Pennant, who is the author of this work, as well as British Zoology, has raised his system principally on the basis of that of Buffon, he does not confine his researches to the information he received from that celebrated writer; having made considerable additions, as well from his own observations, as by those which have been communicated by his numerous friends and acquaintance.

The following is an extract of Mr. Pennant’s sentiments of the various systems which have been invented.

“The Synopsis of our illustrious countryman, Mr. Ray, has been long out of print; and though, from his enlarged knowledge and great industry, one might well suppose his work would for some time discourage all farther attempts of the same sort, yet a republication of that Synopsis would not have answered our present design: for, living at a period when the study of natural history was but beginning to dawn in these kingdoms, and when our contracted commerce deprived him of many lights we now enjoy, he was obliged to content himself with giving descriptions of the few animals brought over here, and collecting the rest of his materials from other writers. Yet so correct was his genius, that we view a systematic arrangement arise even from the chaos of Aldrovandus and Gesner. Under his hand the indigested matter of these able and copious writers assumes a new form, and the whole is made clear and perspicuous.

“From this period every writer on these subjects proposed his own method as an example; some openly, but others more covertly, aiming at the honour of originality, and attempting to seek for fame in the path

chalked

* E. O.

chalked out by Mr. Ray; but too often without acknowledging the merit of the guide.

Mr. Klein, in 1751, made his appearance as a systematic writer on quadrupeds, and in his first order follows the general arrangement of Mr. Ray: but the change he has made of separating certain animals, which the last had consolidated, are executed with great judgment. He seems less fortunate in his second order; for, by a servile regard to a method taken from the number of toes, he has jumbled together most opposite animals; the camel and the sloth, the mole and the bat, the glutton and apes; happy only in throwing back the walrus, the seal, and the manati, to the extremity of his system: I suppose, as animals nearly bordering on another class.

M. Brisson, in 1756, favoured the world with another system, arranging his animals by the number or defect of their teeth; beginning with those that were toothless, such as the ant-eater, and ending with those that had the greatest number, such as the opossum. By this method, laudable as it is in many respects, it must happen unavoidably that some quadrupeds, very distant from each other in their manners, are too closely connected in his system; a defect which, however common, should be carefully avoided by every naturalist.

In point of time, Linnaeus ought to have the precedence; for he published his first system in 1735. This was followed by several others, varying constantly in the arrangement of the animal kingdom, even to the last edition of 1766. It is, therefore, difficult to defend, and still more ungrateful to drop any reflections on a naturalist, to whom we are so greatly indebted. The variations in his different systems may have arisen from the new and continual discoveries that are made in the animal kingdom; from his sincere intention of giving his systems additional improvements; and perhaps from a failing, (unknown indeed to many of his accusers) a diffidence in the abilities he had exerted in his prior performances. But it must be allowed, that the naturalist ran too great a hazard in imitating his present guise; for in another year he might put on a new form, and have left the complying philosopher amazed at the metamorphosis.

The Physician's Vade Mecum; or, a Concise System of the Practice of Physic, small 8vo. 2s. 6d. Robinson.

This little work is calculated to exhibit a system of the medical art, digested in the most practical and concise manner; and will prove as once a valuable acquisition, as a pocket companion, to the gentlemen of the faculty, as well as the public in general.

The Question considered; whether Wool should be allowed to be exported, when the Price is low at Home, on paying a Duty to the Public? By Sir John Dalrymple Bart. 8vo. 6d. Cadell.

This question is a matter of great importance to the nation in general, and deserves the consideration of the legislature.

Sir, John says, amongst other arguments for allowing the exportation of wool when at a low price, 'Every argument for encouraging the exportation of corn when price is low, applies equally to the exportation of wool when price is low, with two advantages on the side of the last of these measures. For first, if it be imprudent to supply our enemies with a raw material for their manufacture at an advanced price, it seems more imprudent to supply them with food, the first principle of all manufactures, at a lower price than we eat it ourselves; and, secondly, it seems strange that a duty should be refused to be accepted on the exportation of the one, when a bounty is not scrupled to be bestowed on the exportation of the other.'

The author also cites several authorities to prove, that, before the prohibition to export wool in England at the Restoration, and in Scotland at the Union, the average price of wool was much higher in both countries than it has been since those periods: that the exportation of woollen manufactures from England, has not been greater, every thing considered, since the prohibition took place, than it was before, and in Scotland has been less; but that since that time the quantity of wool smuggled has been almost beyond belief. From these and other considerations, Sir John thinks wool should be allowed to be exported under certain regulations.

Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica. No. 2. Part 2. containing Reliquæ Galenæ, or, Miscellaneous Pieces by the late learned Brothers Roger and Samuel Gale. 4to. 5s. serwed. Nichols.

In the first number of this publication we find the History and Antiquities of Tunstal, in Kent, by the late Mr. Morres. The 2d, amongst other articles, contains the Memoirs of Thomas, Roger, and Samuel Gale. The third comprehends letters from Roger Gale, Esq. Dr. Stukely, Morres Johnson, Sir John Clerke, Mr. T. Blackwell, &c. The subjects are in general Roman roads, camps, stations, coins, ruins, sepulchres, inscriptions, &c.

The following letter from Sir John Clerke, containing observations on the British language, will, we think, be agreeable to our readers.

'I must observe, were it doubtful, that the Saxons were not such strangers in Britain as the generality of our historians believe, since they had made as many visits, and the language of the Britons, according to Cæsar and

and Tacitus, differed very little from the German, and was originally the same, namely, the Celtic. This language was, about 17 or 1800 years ago, spoken uniformly by five nations, the Germans, Illyrians, Gauls, Spaniards, and Britons; they had very near the same characters, so that what most of our writers call Saxon characters, are truly old British characters, and those which were used in the language spoken from the South parts of Britain to the Murray frith in Scotland; that very language, with gradual alterations and mixtures, which we speak at this day.

I know that a Welshman will laugh at this doctrine; for the people of Wales commonly believe, that, upon the invasions of the Romans and Saxons, most of the true Britons retired into their country with their language, which continues among them at this time; but this I can demonstrate to be a mistake, for the language spoken in Wales and the Highlands in Scotland came from Ireland, and has no affinity with the old Celtic, of which I could give you hundreds of proofs from the ancient remains of the Celtic: in the mean time, I will not say but that the Irish language may be as old, and possibly older, than the Celtic, but sure I am the latter was quite different from the former.

We also present our readers with the following letter from Mr. T. Blackwell, author of the Enquiry into the Life and Writings of Homer, relative to Dr. Bentley, dated Grantham, Oct. 2, 1735.

Dr. Mead having been so good as to write to his friend Dr. Bentley, that I intended to visit Cambridge, the old gentleman, who never stirs abroad, sent for us, and did us, I am told, unusual honours. We spent some hours with him, had a deal of conversation about himself, and some about Manilius and Homer. He spoke very freely; so I found his emendations of the latter solely to relate to the quantity of the verse, and supplying the lines, where the *caesura* cuts off a vowel, which the ancient critics called *Μετωρον*, or *Λαλαρον*, as it was in the end or middle of the verse. This he does by inserting, or, as he says, by restoring the *Æolic* digamma F, which serves as a double consonant, and which he pronounces like our W; thus, *αυτος δε ελωρια τευχε κνεσσιν*, he reads, *αυτος δε Φελωρια τευχε κνεσσιν*, and pronounces *autous de Wheloria*, &c. So *οινου Φαιου*, *ωινου*, wine,—*ε, Φε, ωιν*, which has likewise the sound of the Latin *ois*; so they said, according to him, *Virgilius*, *Warro*, *Ovidius*, *wab*! Yet, if you please to look into the first or second book of Dionysius Halicarnassæus's Antiquities, you will find the digamma explained by a *φ* in Greek, and a *V* in Latin, and the other Greeks said indifferently *Βεργιλιου* and *Ουιδιου*, *Εαροου*

and *Ουαροου*. But the doctor says, he, and Aristarchus, and Demetrius were all dunces, who knew nothing of the digamma, only he himself restored the use of it after it had been lost 2,000 years.

Observations on the material and civil Rights of Mankind, the Prerogatives of Princes, and of the Powers of Government. By the Rev. Thomas Northcote, 8vo. 1s. Dilly.

This author produces many ingenious and forcible arguments, in support of the universal right of the people to election and representation; but how far this gentleman's theoretical principles would be eligible in practice, is a point we will not pretend to determine.

A Letter to the Right Hon. Charles Jenkinson, 4to. 2s. Debrett.

A severe attack upon that gentleman's official conduct; but we think this writer has gone beyond his mark, and, by endeavouring to prove too much, has diminished the weight of those arguments which would have been forcible, without the aid of exaggerations, that are too glaring to prevail.

On the Debts of the Nation, compared with its Revenue; and the Impossibility of carrying on the War, without public Oeconomy. 8vo. 2s. Debrett.

This pamphlet contains an account of the national debt, from estimates, however, that are not properly authenticated. The conclusion the author draws from these estimates is, that the most rigid economy is requisite for carrying on the war.

The Life of Mr. Thomas Firmin, Citizen of London. By Joseph Cornish. 12mo. 2s. 6d. Johnson.

This work seems to have no other recommendation than the patriotic virtues Mr. Firmin possessed. In this point of view it may serve as a model to modern patriots, and perhaps stimulate them to such actions as will hand their names down to posterity as valuable members of society.

Sentimental Excursions to Windsor, and other Places. 2s. 6d. sewed.

These Excursions, which are in imitation of Sterne's manner, appeared originally in a morning paper. They are not, however, destitute of merit in that style of writing.

POETICAL PIECES;

S P R I N G.

An ODE.

NO more stern Winter holds his reign,
He flies with all his stormy train,
Before the steps of golden Spring;
O'er yonder hills the god of day,
Darts forth his world-enliv'ning ray,
The woods with music ring.

How sweet the balmy breath of morn,
On wings of early zephyrs borne
Along the dewy mead;
The distant rills like silver flow,
While on their banks the flow'rets blow,
And sweetest odours shed.

The gardens beautiful wealth of flow'rs,
A thousand sweets profusely pours,
Enriching ev'ry gale;
The hedge-rows shine with blossom'd thorn,
Whose fragrance by the zephyrs borne,
Perfumes the verdant vale.

The feather'd choir resume the spray,
And welcome in the laughing May,
Their notes the voice of Love;
Now sportive thro' the azure sky,
With new plum'd busy wing they fly,
And harmonize the grove.

The gen'rous steed in ev'ry vein,
Feels Spring's prolific balmy reign,
And proudly rears his head:
The bleating flocks o'erspread the dale,
The cattle low along the vale,
Or joyful graze the mead.

Now shines the sun's intenser rays,
And June leads on the fervor'd days,
Her hair with roses bound;
Potæna now with rapture sees
The swelling fruit adorn her trees,
Her vines with plenty crown'd.

All nature with the season smiles,
Rich prospects bless the farmer's toils,
Through all his sylvan reign;
With joy the mountain echoes ring,
The fruitful vallies laugh and sing,
As waves the thriving grain.

The rustic youth their skill display,
And various turn the crisping hay,

In even ranks they move;
While many a jest and jocund song,
Re-echoes thro' the cheerful throng,
And many a tale of love.

The vig'rous youth at morning's dawn,
With rod elastic treads the lawn,
To seek the finny prey;
Or plunging in the limpid wave,
His shining limbs he joys to lave,
Before the fultry day.

Along the gloomy pathless grove,
Behold the careful lover rove,
Secluded from the throng;
Reclin'd beneath the plane-tree's shade,
The studious youth at ease is laid,
Intent on Shakspeare's song.

The Sun rejoicing on his way,
Now pours the ardent noon-tide ray,
The cattle seek the stream:
How sweet the grove's refreshing shade,
When beating on my languid head,
I feel the living beam.

Come Contemplation, pleasing pow'r,
With me enjoy the quiet hour,
In yon' sequester'd grove;
At distance from the city's noise,
And thoughtless folly's trifling joys,
With thee I wish to rove.

Here free from care's perplexing plan,
With serious eye myself I scan,
And blame the ill-spent day;
Set ev'ry jarring thought at rest,
And bend each motion of my breast,
To reason's sacred sway.

Ambition, scarce to worlds confin'd,
And fortune wav'ring as the wind,
Shall ne'er my mind delude;
A conscience clear, and florid health,
Are nobler stores than pow'r or wealth,
Those idols of the croud.

Give me, kind heav'n! I ask no more,
A small retreat, competent store,
With health, and mind at rest;
And let fair Delia lead her life,
My kind, indulgent, virtuous wife,
Then I'm completely blest.

S P R I N G.

A PASTORAL.

SEE! Winter once more quits the plains!
And Spring does their verdure restore;
How pleas'd are the nymphs and the swains,
Since now the cold season is o'er.

The streams now flow swiftly again,
The ice now dissolves in the flood,
The trees now their foliage regain,
For see you green neighbouring wood!

Now Hodge with the milk-maid appears,
And carries her pail with much glee;
She smiles, when his love he declares,
How blest and contented is he!

The shepherds repair to the plain,
From whence they long absent have been;
With pleasure they meet there again,
And dance round their flocks on the green.

With Daphne I visit the grove,
The birds all so cheerful appear,
And warble the songs of their love,
To welcome the spring of the year.

E M M A to H E N R Y *.

WITHIN a convent's gloomy walls,
To Henry, Emma writes;
Hear what her mem'ry recalls!
A once lov'd maid invites.

Oft as we've wander'd thro' the grove,
Or o'er the verdant plain,
You've sworn you'd ever constant prove,
Ne'er treat me with disdain.

Ah! then I thought you truly spoke!
My error now I find;
The oaths you swore, alas! you've broke,
To me you are unkind.

'Tis gold has caus'd you, much lov'd youth,
To Emma false to prove;
Seduc'd from honour and from truth,
You slight a maiden's love.

Within my cell, for you I grieve,
Your loss lament in vain;
Full oft the tender sigh I heave,
No peace can I obtain.

* Henry after having gained the love of Emma and promised her marriage, forsook her (who immediately retired to a convent) and married a lady of great fortune. This epistle is supposed to be written by Emma, when she heard of his marriage.

If Henry does, from scenes of joy
Attend, whilst I complain,
On Emma one short hour employ,
I have not wish'd in vain.

VERSES written by an AMERICAN after his Arrival in LONDON.

DISTANT, far distant from his native
soil,
Far from his friend, his parent, and his
love;
Here let the wanderer pause awhile from
toil,
And check his fancy that delights to rove:

Delights to ponder o'er the transient scene,
Luxuriant Fancy! wilt thou never rest?
Still dost thou shew me what I might have
been,
Still dost thou harrow up this hapless breast.

E'en at the midnight, the tempestuous hour,
When on th' Atlantic's raging bosom
driv'n;
E'en there, oh Fancy! did I feel thy power,
Thou seiz'dst the moments that were due
to heaven.

In dear oblivion didst thou drown the storm,
And while the sky in conflict with the main
Toss the loud billows, nature's face deform,
To thee devoted danger lowr'd in vain.

My soul unmindful of a parent's care,
Niggard of duty, gave not e'en a part;
The best of fathers yielded to the fair,
While she engross'd and seiz'd on all my
heart.

Adieu ye scenes where joy and pleasure
reign'd,
Where love and duty shar'd the pleasing
theme;
Friendship sincere, and passion too unfeign'd,
What are ye now? what are ye but a
dream?

Yet may these hours perhaps again appear,
Yet may indulgent heav'n again restore
My friend, my parent, and my Anna dear,
And joy inhabit this sad breast once more.

While o'er my pensive pillow, tedious roll
The ling'ring nights that usher the dull
day;
Officious hope still rises at my soul,
Points to the future path, and leads the
way.

She bids me shun the dissipated hour,
The venal beauty, and the lewd embrace;
She bids me yield to Virtue's god-like pow'r,
And tears the mask from Pleasure's syren
face.

Yes,

Yes, I will follow thee thou lovely guide!
 Thou source of joys below and joys above!
 Let thoughtless scoffers all around deride,
 Assuit me friendship, duty, and my love.
 R. D. J.

On Miss Elizabeth P——k, of Norton
 Falgate.

IF beauty and innocence please,
 With sense and sincerity join'd;
 My dear Betsey is mistress of these,
 For goodness still glows in her mind.

In her I fix all the delight,
 Which mortals can taste here below;
 She charms me from morning to night,
 And at distance keeps sorrow and woe.

For innocence still has such power,
 It adds to each blessing we share;
 It brightens each dark dreary hour,
 For Virtue's not known to despair.

Each morning brings joy and delight,
 And all the long day is the same;
 But ah!—the soft partings at night!
 Gives raptures too tender to name.

If I sue not her passion in vain,
 I'll strive all the days of my life;
 Grant I but her hand may obtain,
 To render her blest as a wife.

And when nought avail virtue or tears,
 But stopt is her dear vital breath;
 May I too then end all my cares,
 That we may not be parted by death.

THOMAS R——N.

An ODE for her MAJESTY'S BIRTH-
 DAY.

BRING me an harp from heav'n, ye sac-
 red nine,
 And fill each string with harmony divine;
 Strike your sweet lutes, your dulcet voices
 raise,

Breathe all your spirit thro' your poet's lays;
 With sounds celestial aid my grateful voice,
 'Till every British heart like mine rejoice;
 Let tainted Slander hide her guilty head,
 'Till white rob'd Virtue strike Detraction
 dead;

Let Malice droop, and Envy blush for shame,
 While to the spheres I echo CHARLOTTE'S
 name!

Hear it, ye Britons! all ye nations round,
 Hear, and reverberate the joyful sound!
 Daughters of Albion catch the much lov'd
 name,

Which thus I give to everlasting fame.
 With shouts of transport hail the auspicious
 morn,

For on this happy day was *Charlotte* born!
Charlotte! the glory of Britannia's isle,
 Where Virtue reigns, and where the Graces
 smile;

Queen of the people's hearts! her sex's pride,
 On earth their pattern, and to heav'n their
 guide!

Mother by nature of a glorious race,
 And foster-mother of her country's peace,
 For her the orphan's pray'rs to heav'n ascend,
 From her the weeping widow finds a friend;
 Cheer'd by her bounty, clasps her darling
 boy,

And tears of grief are chang'd to tears of joy;
 Ye high of birth, degenerate in crimes,
 Who for your follies plead the graceless times;
 Behold your queen, and blush!—'tis there
 you'll find

The lasting model of a noble mind.
 Come all ye maids who round Parnassus rove,
 And for Britannia manifest your love;
 With notes unsung your sweetest lyres pre-
 pare,

And to the world these happy tidings bear.
 "No more bright Virtue dwells in shades un-
 known,

She quits her cottage for the British throne."
 J. S.

S O N G

In the new Pantomime called LUN'S GHOST.

COME buy my soft ditties, ye maidens
 who love 'em; [praise,
 Ye lads who wou'd sing in your mistresses
 While a happy new year, and a great many
 of 'em,

Is now the glad burthen I give with my lays.
 Hence banish old Care, and let Mirth in his
 room,

Bring the tabor and flask with good jokes
 and good cheer;

Let your smiles give a sunshine to Winter's
 dull gloom,

And as you begin, you shall finish the year.
 Chorus. Hence, banish old, &c. &c.

Ne'er heed the dull glutton, or toping old sot,
 Who praise Christmas alone for its liquor
 and pies;

'Tis the season's good gambols should ne'er
 be forgot,

Which made our forefathers both merry
 and wife.

While round their brisk fires, wedg'd close
 their oak chairs, [feather,

The old and young mingled, all birds of a
 And pleas'd to remember summ'd over the
 years, [sports together:

They had pass'd the same day in the same
 Chorus. Hence banish old, &c. &c.

Such pastimes as these sure can ne'er be amiss,
 When grey-beards and school-boys may join
 in the play, [a kiss,

And the prudish old maid when she forfeits
 May blunder on purpose the forfeit to pay.

While the giggling young Miss who's too
 modest by light, [spark,

Or before folks such favours to grant to her
 Escapes from the room in a suitable fright,

'Till found by her laugh she relents in the
 dark!

Chorus. All the first verse.

FOREIGN

FOREIGN OCCURRENCES.

Vienna, Dec. 5.

THE Emperor has published two edicts, dated the 1st of this month, by which servitude is suppressed in Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia.

Prague, Dec. 9. A circular letter has been sent through all the different districts of Bohemia, with the following notice: That his Imperial Majesty was resolved to grant to all the Protestants in his hereditary dominions, a greater liberty of conscience than they had hitherto enjoyed; and that he would soon fully explain himself in a Royal Edict, which was then drawing up. This circular letter farther added, that all the natives of his hereditary dominions, who had become voluntary exiles on account of religion, might return as soon as they should think proper, in the fullest conviction that they never should be in the least degree disturbed in future, on the score of religion.

Dantzick, Dec. 14. We have just received the decision of the King of Prussia, relative to the toll established with regard to Dantzick ships, newly constructed; it imports, in substance, that when any new Dantzick ships make their first voyage, and return under the flag of this city, they shall then be free of the said toll; but that if the said ships be sold on their first voyage to foreigners, then they shall be subject to the said toll; and for this purpose a security shall be exacted for the new ships that sail, which ought to pay the duties of exports in case they do not return from their first voyage under the Dantzick flag.

A great number of ships are returned hither before the winter; from whence it is presumed that freightage next spring will be much lower than the preceding year. There are now in the magazines of this city 3500 lasts of rye, and 5000 lasts of wheat; and as a scarcity of rye is complained of in Poland, it is to be feared that a large quantity will not arrive next spring. It has begun to freeze here very intensely.

Petersburgh, Dec. 14. The Swedish Minister having by order of his court, communicated to ours the complaints of the court of England to that of Sweden, relative to what passed between a Swedish frigate of war, conveying a great number of neutral merchant ships from the Texel, bound to the Baltic and the North, and some English men of war of rear admiral Keith Stewart's squadron, as also the answer which the court of Sweden

gave to those complaints, the vice chancellor count d'Osterman informed the said minister last Wednesday, that her Imperial Majesty highly approved of the answer of his court, as being in every respect conformable to the principle on which she herself would act in similar circumstances; and that consequently if contrary to all appearance, the court of England will not be contented, but still exercise the power of visiting neutral merchant ships which may be under the king's protection, or under any other sovereign's flag of either of the allied powers, her Imperial Majesty will be always ready to concur and cooperate with his Swedish majesty and the other allies in opposition thereto, and assist in supporting, in such case, the independence of the reciprocal flags. All the Russian ministers, residing at the courts of the belligerent powers, will, it is said, receive orders to communicate this resolution to the courts where they respectively reside, as it equally concerns them all; and we are assured that the allied courts have been entreated to give like orders to their respective ministers resident at the courts of the belligerent powers.

The court this day dispatched a courier to Holland and England, charged, we are assured, among other business, with the orders above mentioned for the ministers of her Imperial Majesty at those courts, and with the acts of accession and acceptance of the Emperor of the Romans to the principle of the armed neutrality, with orders to communicate the same to the courts where they reside.

Utrecht, Dec. 20. In some late assemblies of the deputies of different districts it was unanimously resolved, that as we are now at war, it would shew the greatest indolence not to form some advantageous alliance; some recommended an alliance with the Americans, and others one with France and Spain; whilst all agreed that strong representations ought to be made on that subject to the States-General at their next meeting.

Paris, Dec. 21. The following is the state of the naval armament which sailed from Brest on the 10th of this month, under M. de Guichen, viz.

La Bretagne, of 110 guns; La Majestueux, of 110; La Couronne, of 80; Le Royal Louis, of 110; Le Triomphant, of 80; L'Invincible, of 110; Le Terrible, of 110; Le Brave, of 74; Le Robuste, of 74; Le Magnifique, of 74; Le Bico Aime, of 74; Le Fendant, of 74; Le Pegase, of 74; Le Dauphin

Dauphin Royal, of 70; L'Indier, of 64; L'Argonaut of 74; L'Actif, of 74; Le Lion, of 64; and le Zodiaque, of 74.

The frigates are Le Chopart, of 32 guns; L'Amphitrite, of 32; Le Crescent, of 32; Le Naiade, of 28; La Ceris, a corvette, of 26; Le Clairvoyant, of 18; Le Pandour, of 18; and L'Espegle, of 14; two ships armed en flute, Le Hardi and L'Alexandre. This armament began to get under way on the 10th, at day-break, with a favourable wind at S. S. E. at three o'clock they were entirely out of the road, as well as most of the transports, making together 150 sail, on board of which were embarked 2974 troops, artillery included, besides 1000 colonists, and the usual number of troops on board each ship, which might amount to 3000 men more. There were also shipped 100 twenty-four pounders, 120 sixteen pounders, together with a number of mortars, and a large store of ammunition.

Brussels, Dec. 24. The government hath published an edict of the emperor relative to the independence of the religious orders of the Low Countries of all foreign superiority. Also a regulation relative to the internal navigation of the Low Countries.

Leghorn, Dec. 26. A ship just arrived here from Minorca, brings a confirmation of a report which was before circulated, that the combined troops of France and Spain in that island had taken the fortress of Marmia, and from that place they continued to attack fort St. Philip with vigour.

Copenhagen, Dec. 27. On the 9th inst. two magazines of cordage, situated without the West Gate, were consumed by a terrible fire; the loss is the more unfortunate, as several merchant ships are in great want of cordage.

The American privateer taken by captain count de Moltke, near Christianland, for having fired a cannon shot into an English ship, is released: it was proved that the firing was occasioned merely by the imprudence of a sailor. The American ship has also taken three English privateers, concerning the legality of which captures a suit at law is instituted.

The king having had some rixd llars coined, to be sent for negotiation into foreign countries, has obtained leave of the court of Russia, for their being admitted in that empire as those of Holland are; and orders have been issued at Petersburgh for that purpose.

Hague, Dec. 27. His Highness the Prince Stadtholder has not only put the ships of the State into commission sooner than usual, but he hath also given orders for all the captains to take care to have them quite complete against the beginning of April, that they may be ready to put to sea early.

Hamburg, Jan. 4. The resolution of the court of Vienna to dismantle the Barrier Towns, garrisoned by the Dutch, has spread

a general alarm through Hol'and: for we learn that, by order of the States, a vast number of hands were daily employed in repairing and putting in the best posture of defence the forts of Frederic Henry, Lille, Knys-Schans, and Liefken Chock; and that some able engineers were adding new works and batteries to each, besides repairing the old ones.

Lisbon, Jan. 5. The king has published an edict for suppressing the privilege of foreign ambassadors giving protection to criminals or debtors.

Hamburg, Jan. 7. The quantity of wines and provisions of all sorts laid in at Schonbrun, the 25th of November last, for the supper given there in honour of the Grand Duke and Duchess of Russia, must have been immense; for after 510 guests, who had been invited to sup on the occasion, had risen from table, all that was left of the provisions, wines, confectionary, &c. was given to the numerous guards that attended; but these not being able to consume all that was given to them, the inhabitants of Schonbrun were called in to partake of the rest.

The king of Poland is at present making a tour of all that remains to him of his kingdom. The Poles are in raptures at the sight of a sovereign, who has hitherto never been seen in any part of the kingdom, except in and about the capital: The affability of Stanislaus makes the most lively impression on the hearts of his subjects, the greatest part of whom had never been blessed with a sight of their prince: Stanislaus has passed through many places, where a king of Poland had not made his appearance for half a century back. The country gentlemen, who never go to the capital, and who had never seen the king, came in large bodies to meet him on the road, as he passed; and as it is impossible to see him without loving him, they returned to their seats in raptures, at the gracious reception they had met; and reproaching themselves at the same time for having once confederated against him.

Hague, Jan. 11. The different colleges of admiralty have delivered in their reports upon the question, of what the cause is that the fitting out of men of war has hitherto gone on so slowly, and they all agree that they have used all possible means for the defence of the country, and the protection of the trade and navigation of the Republick, but that from the great expence of putting some of the dock-yards into repair, and the want of ship-building materials, the equipment of the men of war has not gone on so fast as could have been wished; add to which, that since the year 1740, the marine has been suffered to decline without vigorous measures being taken for its re-establishment, which, together with the present want of shipwrights and sailors, occasions the actual weakness of the marine of this republick.

DOMES-

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON, Dec. 25.

SOME dispatches were received at the Admiralty from Governor Dalling at Jamaica, brought over in the *Camden*, Captain King. She sailed from Port Royal the 23d of October. Brings advice, that the French had collected a large body of troops at Marinico, v. z. 800 from Grenada, and about 400 from Tobago, and were going up on an expedition. The French gave out, that their object was to retake Surinam and Essequibo; but most people supposed it was against Barbadoes. In consequence of which the Governor of St. Lucia had detached some troops from that island to Barbadoes; but there was no intelligence received in Jamaica of the issue of this enterprize: when the *Camden* failed.

St. James's, Dec. 29.

Extract of a letter from the Right Honourable General Elliot, Governor of Gibraltar, to the Earl of Hillsborough, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, dated Gibraltar, November 28, 1783; received December 27.

"I have the honour to communicate to your lordship, that the uniform appearance of the enemy's operations sufficiently shewing, that an attempt to storm and destroy the whole of their advanced works, now arrived at the highest state of perfection, after immense labour and expence, would probably be attended with the desired success; it was therefore judged expedient to carry the same into immediate execution.

"The necessary arrangements being made, a considerable detachment, formed in three columns, marched from the garrison, upon the setting of the moon, at three o'clock in the morning, of the 27th instant. The columns were severally composed of an advanced corps, a body of pioneers, artillery men carrying combustibles, a sustaining corps, with a reserve in the rear. The pioneers of the left column were seamen from His Majesty's ships.

"The force of the enemy, in their lines and advanced works, consisting of fifty or sixty cavalry, and 600 infantry, composed of the Spanish and Walloon guards, artillerymen, cazadores, and other light troops, besides the usual body of workmen carrying their arms.

"The vigorous efforts of His Majesty's troops, on every part of the exterior front,

were irresistible; and the enemy, after a scattering fire of short duration, gave way on all sides, and abandoned their stupendous works with great precipitation.

"The pioneers and artillerymen made wonderful exertions, and spread their fire with such amazing rapidity, that in half an hour two mortar batteries of ten thirteen-inch mortars, and three batteries of six guns each, with all the lines of approach, communication, traverses, &c. were in flames, and are reduced to ashes. The mortars and cannon were spiked, and their beds, carriages and platforms destroyed. Their magazines blew up, one after the other, as the fire approached them.

"The enemy, seeing all opposition to be ineffectual, offered no other annoyance than an ill-directed fire of round and grape shot from the forts of St. Barbara and St. Philip, and the batteries on the lines, and remained in their camp spectators of the conflagration.

"The whole detachment was in the garrison again by five o'clock, just before the break of day. Brigadier-general Ross had the chief command, and conducted the attack with so much judgment, through the variety of critical incidents attending an enterprize of this nature, as highly contributed to the general success. The center column was led by Lieutenant-Colonel Dachenhausen, of Redon's regiment; the right by Lieutenant-Colonel Hugo, of Hardenbergh's; the left by Lieutenant-Colonel Trig, of the 12th; and the reserve by Major Maxwell, of the 73d. The seamen, in two divisions, were commanded by Lieutenant Campbell, of the *Brilliant*, and Lieutenant Muckle, of the *Porcupine*.

"Captain Curtis, of the *Brilliant*, (commanding the squadron in the bay) accompanied them as a volunteer, and greatly distinguished himself by his discernment, assistance, and personal efforts. To the attention and valour of these chief officers, and the steadiness of the troops, was owing the good order observed throughout the whole.

"Greater zeal for His Majesty's service was never shewn, nor was there ever an enterprize more perfectly executed.

"Many of the enemy were killed upon the spot; but owing to the darkness and other circumstances, I am not enabled to in-

form your Lordship, either of the exact number, or their particular quality. A Sub-Lieutenant of Grenadiers, with rank of Captain, and seven of the Walloon Guards, with an officer and three artillery men, were taken prisoners.

"It is with extreme pleasure that I acquaint your Lordship the loss on our part has been inconsiderable, a return of which is herewith inclosed."

A Return of the Killed, Wounded and Missing, at the Salley, on the 27th of November, 1781.

Royal Artillery. 1 rank and file wounded.
12th regiment 1 rank and file killed; lieutenant Tweedie, 1 rank and file wounded.
39th ditto. 1 serjeant wounded.
72d ditto. 1 rank and file wounded.
73d ditto. 1 rank and file killed; 2 rank and file wounded.
S. A. Company. 1 rank and file wounded.
Hardenbergh's. 2 rank and file killed; 1 serjeant, 11 rank and file wounded.
Reden's. 1 rank and file missing.
Total. 4 rank and file killed; 1 lieutenant, 2 serjeants, 17 rank and file wounded; 1 rank and file missing.

Five seamen wounded; but only one dangerously.

N. B. None of the wounded since dead, but are likely to do well.

G. A. ELLIOTT, Governor.

Admiralty Office. Jan. 1, 1782.

Extract of a letter from Capt. Caldwell, commander of his Majesty's ship Agamemnon, to Mr. Stephens, dated Spithead, December 30, 1781.

"Please to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty with the arrival here of his Majesty's ship under my command, with five prizes. We were detached with la Prudente by Rear-Admiral Kempenfelt, to proceed after the French convoy (with a view of falling in with some of their transports or trading vessels that may have separated from them) which the fleet under his command fell in with the 12th instant.

"On the 25th at noon, in latitude 46. 30. N. Selly N. 46 E. distance 200 leagues, we took five sail from Bourdeaux, bound to Martinico, chiefly laden on the French King's account, and were intended to have joined M. de Guichen.

"The wind has been one constant gale of wind from S. S. W. to W. S. W. with hard squalls, and five hours storm; so that I should hope the French convoy will be scattered, if they have not in prudence returned.

"There are three King's officers among the prisoners, one Captain of Foot, and two of Artillery.

Jan 1. Yesterday forenoon Mr. Laurens, attended by the Deputy Governor of the

Tower, waited upon the Privy Council; and after upwards of an hour's examination, during which he acquitted himself with great ease and perspicuity, in answering every question that was put to him, was referred to Lord Mansfield at his chambers in Serjeants Inn, where his Lordship attended in person, and admitted Mr. Laurens to bail.

Jan 3. Some dispatches were brought to the Plantation Office from the Governor of Barbadoes, which mention that every thing continued there in a perfect state of tranquillity the 3d of last month, and likewise in all the Leeward Islands, being the time the packet sailed for England.

Admiralty Office, Jan 4. The following are extracts of letters received yesterday from Captain Inglis, of his Majesty's ship St. Alban's, to Mr. Stephens.

Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, Nov. 30, 1781.

"Pleas to inform my Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty, that his Majesty's ships St. Alban's and Eurydice arrived here the 26th of November, with the convoy from Corke for the different islands, all of which have arrived safe, except the Peace and Plenty of Belfast, 200 tons burthen, James Hamilton, Master, which foundered off the Western Islands, on the 30th of October, and only one man saved.

"Capt. Harvey, of the Convert, writes from Gros-Ilet, in the island of St. Lucia, to General Christie, that he had seen 12 sail of the line go into Martinico on the 26th "

Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, Dec. 3, 1781.

"The Gros-Ilet schooner arrived here this morning from Capt. Harvey, of his Majesty's ship Convert at St. Lucia, where he is with four frigates, and incloses the state of the French fleet at Martinico, under M. de Grass, which I transmit for their lordships information by the Granville Packet that sails this evening for England; deeming it highly necessary to communicate the knowledge of the enemy's strength in these seas.

Jan. 4. The cannon which were taken out of the Terrible man of war of 74 guns, burnt off the Chesapeak, on account of the damage she had received with Lu Grass's squadron, were landed at New York, in order to be mounted in some new works raising there, and on Staten Island, for the defence of New York.

7. The 10th regiment of foot are ordered to embark at Portsmouth for Jamaica; they are now on their march from Tinmouth for that place.

9. Letters from Charles Town say, that from the nature of the present force under Major General Leslie, the commanding officer of the garrison, consisting of upwards of 7000 men, no danger whatever is to be apprehended from our enemies in that quarter. Accounts have also been received, by the same conveyance, from Patrick Tonyn, Esq. Go-

vernor of East Florida, residing at St. Augustine. From these government are given to understand, that the Spaniards had relinquished the design which they some time ago appeared to have formed against the capital of the province, and that every thing there was in the utmost security and tranquillity.

11. Early yesterday morning, Captain Montgomery, of his Majesty's sloop the Ranger, arrived at the Admiralty with dispatches from Rear-Admiral Sir Samuel Hood, dated Barbadoes, the 13th of December, giving an account of his safe arrival off that island, with the Squadron under his command, on the 5th of that month; and also fully confirming the crippled state of the French fleet, then lying in Fort Royal, Martinique.

Whitehall, January 12, 1782.

Extract of a letter from Major-General Christie, to Lord George Germain, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, dated Dec. 15, 1781. Received by the Ranger sloop of war.

"It is with real grief I am obliged to communicate to your Lordship the disagreeable news of the capture of St. Eustatius and St. Martin, the 26th and 27th ult. by a handful of the enemy, not exceeding 300 men, landed from three frigates, and some small craft, at Jenkins's bay, at the back of the island, under the command of the Marquis de Bouille, without the smallest opposition from the garrisons; the former consisting of 723, and the latter of 63 effective men, including officers.

14. This morning advice was received at the Admiralty, that the remainder of the French fleet, with the transports which Admiral Kempenfelt engaged, put back into Brest in so shattered a condition, that they will not be able to put to sea again for some time.

A packet was received from Mr. Mathias, his Majesty's Resident at Hamburgh, giving information that twelve Dutch Indiamen, then in the Texel, were having part of their cargoes taken out, the articles being judged unfit for their voyage, as the ships had been laden ever since last spring, but were prevented sailing by the English Squadron continuing on the coast. In each of these ships are to be embarked 300 troops, for the better defence of the Dutch settlements at the Cape and their Spice Islands. These ships are intended to sail as soon as the season will admit of their departure.

15. The last letters from Quebec mention, that a large French transport, having lately been shipwrecked in the gulph of St. Lawrence, deserted by the crew, on board of which were found a great quantity of gunpowder, 2000 firelocks, and divers other articles, supposed to be intended for the Indians.

16. Advices have been received that Lord Cornwallis, having had the good fortune to adjust the cartel for the exchange of his unfortunate army with more expedition than was originally expected, was now on his return to this country, accompanied by Major-General Arnold. His lordship left New-York on the 15th of December, and comes home on board the Robust man of war of 74 guns, commanded by Captain Cosby, which, together with the Janus, of 44, commanded by Capt. O'Hara, are a convoy to a large fleet of merchantmen, transports, &c. to the amount of 150 sail, which left New-York on the same day with his lordship. These accounts are brought by the Apollo transport, which arrived at Portsmouth on Sunday the 13th, and brings farther advices, that several of the unfortunate loyalists, who had fallen into the hands of the Americans on the capitulation of York Town, had received the fate denounced against their defection from Congress, which had such an effect upon a large number of refugees, resident at New-York, that they were coming to this country in shoals, and that a very considerable body of them are actually on board the fleet that is coming home, with an intention to throw themselves for support on the generosity of this government.

17. At the Session before the Lord-Mayor, Recorder, and the Aldermen Hallifax, Wright, and Turner, at Guildhall, the several peace officers of the city enrolled to levy the sum of 28,000l. for reparation of the losses during the late riots, were called upon to answer for the respective deficiencies in their collections. The general account was, that they were unacquainted with the mode of enforcing the law, it being a new case, and another cause of deficiency was the poverty of many of the inhabitants. The court informed the constables, that their excuse amounted to nothing, for the Act of Parliament had sufficiently empowered them to raise the money, without giving to them any discretion. But the Constables of Farringdon-Ward Without, made a special return, viz. that the Inns of Court, namely, the Temple, Serjeants and Clifford's Inns, were liable by law, and that a demand had been made upon those learned Societies, which had refused, alledging they were extra-parochial, and exempt from the assessment. The court enquired how far those courts claimed the assistance of the civil power, and it appeared that the City Constables were always called in upon occasion. The Recorder ordered notices to be sent to the Treasurer of each Society, to pay a proportion, and the constables were directed to attend the 30th instant, and in the mean time were forewarned to collect the money, otherwise not only they would suffer, but the city at large be liable to a prosecution in the Court of King's-Bench.

Admiralty.

Admiralty-office, Jan. 18, 1782.

The following is a list of Prizes taken, on the 12th of last month, by the fleet under the command of Rear Admiral Kempenfelt, from the convoy of Mons. de Guichen's squadron, transmitted by the Rear Admiral in a letter to Mr. Stephens, of yesterday's date.

The *L'Emille*, Pierre Scholan, Lieut. de Frigate, Commander, 300 tons, from Brest, arrived at Portsmouth, 31 seamen, 149 soldiers, including a colonel and lieutenant of infantry, laden with 10,000 cannon balls, iron bars, steel, twine, and sail cloth, and 16 pieces of cannon.

The *Guillaume Tell*, Le Coutrais, commander, 390 tons, from Brest, arrived at Portsmouth, 33 seamen, laden with cannon balls, howitzers, soldiers' cloathing and accoutrements, flints, grenades, shells, and 515 barrels of gunpowder of 200lb. weight each, on the French King's account; and on the merchants, iron bars, rum, and provisions.

The *Sophia de Brest*, Jaques Franco's Brisson commander, 160 tons, from Brest, arrived at Portsmouth, 22 seamen, laden with biscuit, shells of eight inches, grenades, and 29 chests of arms, on the French King's account, and on the merchants, provisions, cordage, and linen.

The *London*, Videaux, lieut. de frigate, commander, 350 tons, from Brest, arrived at Milford, 48 seamen, 201 soldiers, laden with sheet lead, sundry chests of small arms and artillery stores, cloathing, and bales of cloth & r d i t o, four months provisions for the soldiers, and six months provisions for the sailors; and some private trade.

The *La Minerva*, Pomelle, lieut. de frigate, commander, 300 tons, from Brest, arrived at Milford, 38 seamen, laden with bomb shells, shot, 55 chests of small arms, 10 ditto artillery stores, 40 artillery wheels, a quantity of bread, and some private trade.

The *L'Amitie Royale*, 450 tons, from Brest, arrived at Tenby, 60 seamen, 111 soldiers, laden with 250 barrels of wine, 100 barrels of beef and pork, and a large quantity of other provisions, 10 tons of balls, 150 muzzles, 20 tons of lead, powder, tents, &c.

The *L'Abundance*, Dupui, commander, 600 tons, from Brest, arrived at Plymouth, 90 seamen, 248 soldiers, laden with ordnance stores, provisions, &c.

The *L'Hero*, Pierre de Soude commander, 190 tons from Brest, arrived at Plymouth, 30 seamen, cargo not ascertained.

The *La Victoire*, Jean Baptiste Tierhier commander, 140 tons from Brest, arrived at Plymouth, 21 seamen, laden with about 354 hogheads of wine, 250 half barrels of pork, and 32 pipes of brandy, on the French King's account.

The *Le Mercure*, Jacques Boutel commander, 500 tons from Brest, arrived at Plymouth, 45 seamen, 10 servants, some officers, laden with about 100 bales of woollen goods, 150 jars of oil, 80,000 bricks, 3,500 barrels of flour, 60 hogheads of wine, sundry merchandize, and 4 carriages.

The *Le Geneveux*, Jean Baptiste Harinnondeer, commander, 400 tons, from Brest, arrived at Plymouth, 40 seamen, 193 soldiers, laden with about 100 hogheads of wine, 60 barrels of flour, 30,000 bricks, wine, brandy, beef, pork, biscuit, and sundry other articles.

The *Margarette*, Francis Coroufin commander, 160 tons, from Brest, arrived at Plymouth, 20 seamen, 1 officer, laden with a large quantity of soldiers' cloathing, wine, brandy, and wet and dry provisions.

The *Sophia de St. Malou*, Pierre le Vigot, commander, 250 tons, from Brest, arrived at Plymouth, 50 men, laden with brass cannon, shot, carriages, travelling magazines, chests, muskets, and provisions.

The *L'Africain*, 350 tons, from Brest, arrived at Plymouth, 40 seamen, 160 soldiers, 100 hogheads of red wine, 12 hogheads of brandy, 200 barrels of beef and pork, 100 barrels of flour, and great quantities of other provisions, and 30 chests of fire arms.

One ship arrived at Falmouth, of which no account has yet been received.

Two or three of the French transports sunk by the squadron.

N. B. The total number of soldiers by the foregoing account, appears to be 1062, and number of seamen, 548.

Extract of a Letter from Dublin, Jan. 19.

"Yesterday, at the general quarter assembly of the lord mayor, aldermen, sheriffs, and commons, held at the Thotel, the freedom of this city was voted to Lord Rawdon in consideration of his intrepid and gallant behaviour as a soldier and commander, in defence of his country, and in testimony of the respect and regard which the metropolis of Ireland retains for military prowess when exerted with virtue and courage."

21. Friday night, between ten and eleven o'clock, a fire broke out at Mr. Woodmason's, stationer, in Leadenhall street, which burnt so furiously, no water being to be had for upwards of half an hour, that it greatly alarmed the whole neighbourhood. The gentlemen of the Artillery Company attended, and were very useful in keeping off the mob. But what renders this accident truly deplorable is, that Mr. Woodmason's whole family of seven children perished in the flames, owing, as it is said, to the fire's breaking out in the second floor, directly under the nursery, by which the stair-case was soon consumed, and all possibility both of help and

retreat

retreat entirely cut off. Several of the firemen were killed by the sudden falling of the wall of an adjoining building. Two of them and the nursery-maid are said to be missing.

His Majesty having been indisposed on Thursday, was twice let blood on that day, and on Friday, the Queen's birth-day, he was seized with a bleeding at the nose in the Drawing-room, which obliged him to retire very soon after three o'clock, before half the customary ceremony of the day was gone through. His Majesty continued so much indisposed, that he did not appear in the Ball-room in the evening, but the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Duke of Cumberland, were present.

Admiralty-office, Jan. 21, 1782.

Extract of a letter from Vice-Admiral Drake, commander in chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels in the Downs, to Mr. Stephens, dated Jan. 21, 1782.

"His Majesty's Ships *Dædalus* and *Hind* arrived in the Downs last night, with a convoy from Quebec, together with some casters, and brought in with them a French lugger privateer, of eight guns, and 37 men, taken by the *Dædalus* near the coast of France; she had been only a few hours out of Calais."

23. Yesterday at one o'clock, and not before, the right hon. the earl Cornwallis arrived in the metropolis, accompanied by general Arnold and his family. His lordship brings information, that he left New-York with a fleet of transports, &c. to the amount of 119 sail, on the 22th of December. On the 18th a violent storm arose, and so completely dispersed them that no particular four of them ever got together again during the whole course of their passage. The *Janus*, of 44 guns, has never been heard of since the dispersion. His lordship farther relates that in the course of the passage the *Robuste*, in which he was originally on board when he left New-York, sprung a leak, and he was removed on board the *Greyhound* transport. When he came within sight of Scilly, his vessel was captured by a French brig, the captain of which took out several of the English sailors into his own ship, and put eight Frenchmen and a prize-master into the *Greyhound*, with directions to steer for the first French port. Before they came near the coast of France, a violent storm arose, and the Frenchmen being bad navigators, and the vessel in danger of being lost, lord Cornwallis proposed to the master to restore the ship to the command and steerage of the Englishmen, and he pledged his honour that it should be returned untouched. The necessity of the case left no alternative, and the man compli-

ed; the vessel was brought into Torbay, where his lordship was received by captain Macbride, and the *Greyhound* was resigned to the Frenchmen.

Extract of a letter from Amsterdam, dated December 27, 1781.

"The long wished for reports from the different colleges of admiralty of the Seven United Provinces, relative to their operations during the war between Great-Britain and her colonies; and since the breaking out of hostilities between England and the Republic, to the year 1781, have at length appeared in print: they were made in consequence of an order from the Prince Stadtholder and the States-General. These reports remove in the most satisfactory manner, the doubts that had been long entertained, whether the colleges of admiralty, as far as in them lay, had really done every thing that ought to have been expected from them, for the defence of the state, the protection of trade, and the annoyance of the enemy: from these reports it appears how active and zealous the different colleges had been; and for what reasons, certain resolutions have not been carried into execution.—The college of the North, or of West Frisland, complains greatly in its report, of the enormous expences it was obliged to incur, before it could proceed to work on ships, in three of its yards; of the total want of tools, and of all sorts of materials for ship building, with which the arsenals or yards were totally unprovided; the report attributes all this to the low state of the finances of the province; the emptiness of its treasury, and the weight of its heavy debts. All these causes united, were more than sufficient, according to the language of the report, to shew, why the naval force of that college of admiralty, from the year 1776, to 1780, had consisted only of two frigates, namely, the *Dieran*, and the *West Frisland*; the latter of which was not got ready before 1780. The report, however, states, that the force of this college will, in 1782, consist of eleven ships, viz. one of 70 guns; five of 60; one of 50; one of 40; one of 36; and two of 24; exclusive of a yacht, and four guard ships. Their noble mightinesses of West Frisland, continue their reports in the following terms:

"It will require infinite sums to fit out such a fleet in a proper manner, and supply it with all necessary stores, of which there is no provision laid up in our yards; if the necessary funds can be raised, we may then be able to purchase cannons, carriages, and every other necessary implement belonging to them; but where shall we be able to find seamen? They are not to be bought like arms, and we know that there is at present a very small number to be found."

Extract

24. This day, general Arnold, lately arrived in town from New-York, was at court for the first time, was introduced to his Majesty, and graciously received.

Same day, colonel Tarleton, Leake, and major Dundas, were at court at St. James's, and introduced to her Majesty.

Last night an express arrived at the Admiralty from Portsmouth, with advice of the Surprise frigate, of 28 guns, capt. Reeve, being arrived at that place, with part of the Lisbon fleet. On the 19th instant, in lat. 46. long. 11. she spoke with Sir G. Rodney, and the same day parted with the Danae frigate, the Friendship, Cornwall, and a capt. Nelson, bound to London. Off Cape Finisterre, she captured a large French transport, of 600 tons burthen, loaded with provisions and stores for the West Indies, which she left with the Danae frigate. By the Surprise, dispatches were likewise received from Sir George Rodney, which make mention of his having met with very blowing weather. The day after the Surprise parted from Sir George, they met with a most tremendous gale. The Defiance brig, capt. M'Neil, bound to London, is the only ship's name that is mentioned to be arrived. By this intelligence we are happy to congratulate the public, that the account published in the papers a few days ago of the Danae frigate and several of her convoy being captured, was entirely false, and without any authority.

25. Admiral Roddam is to have the command of a fleet of five sail of the line and four frigates, to be ready the beginning of March; on what expedition is not conjectured.

This day, Dr. Turton was at court, and kissed his majesty's hand on being appointed physician to the household, in the room of Sir John Pringle, deceased, and received the honour of knighthood.

26. By accounts from Paris, by way of Ostend, we are assured that Dr. Franklin, had in the month of November, last laid before the French ministry the outlines of a new treaty of alliance between France and Congress, and that it had been revised, altered, and signed, on the part of the French king, the middle of this month; by which it is said the Americans, provided they are assisted by their allies to dispossess Great-Britain of her colonies, agree to give up Canada, Long-Island, Maryland, and North-Carolina, to France; a circumstance not likely to leave the Americans any prospect of becoming an independent people.

MARRIAGES.

Edward Roche, Esq; of Trabulgan, in the county of Corke, in Ireland, to Miss Wombwell, daughter of the late Sir George Wombwell, Bart.

Jan. 9. John Hodgefon, Esq; secretary to the Bishop of Lincoln, to Mrs. Douglas.

15. ——— Mann, Esq; of Red Lion-square, to Miss Vernor, of Fore-street, Moorfields.

George Kirton, Esq; of Jamaica, to Miss Diana Sheldon, of Edmonton.

DEATHS.

John Parkhurst, Esq; eldest son of the Rev. John Parkhurst, of Epsom, Surry, and Captain in the Northamptonshire regiment of militia, at Falmouth, in Cornwall.

The Right Hon. John Maule, Earl of Panmure, and Baron Maule of the Kingdom of Ireland.

John Hurst, Esq; one of the Aldermen of East Retford, in Nottinghamshire, and Clerk of the Peace for the said county.

Sir George Egerton Leigh, Bart. at Savannah, in Georgia, and formerly Attorney General of that province.

The Rev. Mr. Edward Holme, vicar of Byring, in Kent.

At Bath, the Right Hon. Lady Trevor, relict of John Lord Trevor, and daughter of the late Sir Richard Steel, Bart.

At the house of his friend, Dr. Samuel Johnson, Dr. Levet, a practitioner in physic.

Jan. 14. Capt. Forbes, at Harwich, aged 102, many years an officer in the royal navy.

15. James Coningham, Esq; B. A. of Trinity College, Dublin, and student of the Hon. Society of Lincoln's-Inn.

William Clement, M. D. representative in parliament for the city of Dublin, and Vice-Provost of Trinity College.

16. George Pearce, Esq; late a Hamburg merchant, at Blackheath.

18. Sir John Pringle, Bart. formerly physician to the army, afterwards physician to her Majesty, and late president of the Royal Society.

Henry Berners, Esq; of Hanwell, Middlesex.

19. John Bullock, Esq; of Pyle, Middlesex.

Osborn Thornton, Esq; at Highgate.

20. John Raymond, Esq; brewer to the Victualling-Office

21. The lady of Peter Calmel, Esq; of Park-place, St. James's.